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Near East & South Asia

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Arab-Israeli Talks

'Arafat, Peres Initial Implementation Treaty in Cairo

Signing Ceremony Described

LD0902232294 Cairo MENA in English 2155 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, Feb 9 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak tonight attended the signing ceremony of the Cairo Agreement on implementation of steps related to checkpoints in the occupied Arab territories and the size of the West Bank town of Jericho as well as maps supplemented to the accord.

Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres initialled the treaty.

'Abu-'Ala' [Ahmad Quray'], head of the PLO economic department , and Uri Safir, Israeli Foreign Ministry director-general, also initialled the agreement's supplements and [word indistinct].

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif along with members of the Egyptian, Palestinian and Israeli delegations and two representatives of the Norwegian Government have officiated the signing ceremony.

Following the signing of the agreement, President Mubarak delivered a brief speech in which he alluded to intensive talks held here over three days.

He asserted that this agreement will remove all obstacles blocking the final signing by 'Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on an agreement on implementation of the declaration of principles they signed in Washington in September. The president expressed hopes that upcoming Palestinian-Israeli negotiations would achieve progress.

He also congratulated both the Palestinian and Israeli peoples on the signing of this treaty, meant to put an end to bloody conflict and tension in the region.

Following the signing of the accord, President 'Arafat hugged President Mubarak amidst applaud by delegation members. Peres also embraced President Mubarak on the occasion of this historic moment.

The PLO chairman extended heart-felt thanks in the name of the Palestinian people and his name to President Mubarak for his efforts that helped produce such results.

'Arafat also thanked 'Amr Musa as well as Foreign Ministry experts for the help they gave in hammering out the treaty. [Word indistinct] consider what we have done over the past three days a vital step towards implementation of what we signed in Washington," added the PLO chairman.

Shim'on Peres made a brief speech thanking Presidents Mubarak and ('Arafat) for efforts aimed at achieving peace in the Middle East. He also extended thanks for Foreign Minister Musa.

Peres said the talks tackled five or six points considered the most intricate.

I want to tell the Palestinians that we are serious and looking forward to peace between Jews and the Arabs, Peres said.

Attending were some 300 representatives of world media organs and news agencies.

Mubarak, 'Arafat, Peres Hold News Conference

NC0902235094 Cairo ESC Television in Arabic 2146 GMT 9 Feb 94

[News conference by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres with unidentified reporters at the Presidential Palace in Heliopolis, Cairo, on 9 February—recorded; in English]

[Text] [Mubarak] We welcome the initialing of another Palestinian-Israeli peace document after several weeks of intensive negotiations. A successful conclusion of these talks reinforces our confidence and that all the peoples in the region and the prospect of comprehensive peace and full development. These documents initialed now eliminate several obstacles from the road to peace and pave the way for the signing of the accord agreement and the next protocol by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, with our hope that this will take place in the very near future in order to bolster the structure of peace and stability throughout the region.

On the other hand, we are looking forward to the attainment of meaningful progress on the other track conflict. We are certain that this is the clear choice all parties to the conflict which have caused much sufferings and tragedies for people.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend both parties on their sincerity and dedication. They demonstrated their unwavering commitment to peace, together with their courage and willingness to assume the responsibility for achieving it.

We congratulate the Palestinian and Israeli people for their devotion and conviction of the necessity to make peace and put an end to conflict and tension. With this goodwill and mutual confidence, we shall be able to transform the area to a region of tranquility and creative initiative. Let us vow together to make the Cairo agreement another significant step on the road to peace. Thank you. [applause]

['Arafat] From my heart, by the name of our people, by the name of our leadership, by the name of the PLO, I have to thank His Excellency President Mubarak for he pushed forward to achieve what we have signed tonight

we agreed today and also the progress which we have already pushed even before signing our agreement in Washington. What we have done we can't forget and we will not forget in the future.

So again, thank you, Mr. President, from our hearts for what you have done. I have also to thank his Foreign Minister Brother 'Amr Musa for his great efforts and all the Egyptian staff for helping us to achieve what we have achieved.

We consider what we have done during the last few days a major step for the implementation of the DOP [Declaration of Principles] which we have signed in Washington, so very soon we'll be able to meet together in Jericho. Thank you. [applause]

[Peres] Mr President, Mr. Chairman, the Foreign Minister, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to second the thanks of Chairman 'Arafat to President Mubarak for the excellent support he is providing all the people in the Middle East to go in the direction of peace. Do not forget that 15 years ago, Egypt and Israel were hostile, were enemies, were fighting and today we are very proud to look up to Egypt. It is a major force in the Middle East to bring peace to all nations and countries. I thank you Mr. President for constant support and optimism in bringing peace to the Middle East. I would also like to thank Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa who played an extremely positive role in bringing us together, his intervention is always helpful and positive. I told the president jokingly that we came to Cairo [word indistinct] like the Sphinx and we are leaving Cairo [words indistinct] like pyramids. We did not know what will happen. Now we feel lthat something important did happen.

I know that Chairman 'Arafat has had to take some very difficult decisions as well as the Government of Israel and the prime minister of Israel and I am very glad that the tow sides did it. Let me say about the importance of this agreement. We took five or six of the most complicated issues between two peoples. We could go the Bosnian way: to shoot, to fight, to kill. Instead, we went our way: to agree, to find common grounds, to tell the Palestinian people and to tell the Israeli people that we are serious, we are credible. We are not looking for images and public relations. We are looking for real peace for all children in the Middle East, Arabs and Jews, Palestinians, Druze, Israelis, Egyptians, Syrians, Jordanians. And I hope that what we did here will be significant to many other areas in the world.

As far as I put my concern, I know that the people of Israel are seriously and deeply interested in making peace a reality. I am convinced that historically and morally, they do not want to be the dominating force of the Palestinian people. They do not want that. And I know that the Palestinian people went through a great deal of suffering. And I know that Chairman 'Arafat is trying really to offer them a new future. It proves simply that it is very difficult to depart from a bitter past and offer a new horizon, to form the best agreements, and questions and difficulties. May I say that what I named the spirit of Cairo is posing itself with an encouraging spirit. But our peoples are decided to go ahead and make full peace, not just a piece of paper but a new reality for all of us.

We did not complete our work, but we overcame very, very difficult issues. And by agreement, and by negotiations, negotiations which were on occasions extremely difficult even bitter to the two sides. [Words indistinct] I know that you people from the press were a little bit interested in [word indistinct] in order to have information ahead of time. We did not provide you because we did not know. And for that reason, this evening, in this beautiful palace, in this great city of Cairo, is in my judgement a credible step, a new future for the children of all of us. Thank you very much.

[Unidentified reporter] One question [words indistinct].

['Arafat, in progress] ...And what has been done is a very important step to implement the DOP, or the papers on the ground. But still, we have something and we have agreed upon with Mr. Peres to continue through the work of our committees here in Cairo concerning other issues. And since that time another meeting will take place for the economic committee also to took place in Paris, to continue. And I hope, and I am sure that what has been done is the most important first step. And I have to say to all my people that we are starting this issue, this step, so that we will be able to overjump all our troubles. And we are sure that we can create now, new era for our people. We can say that Palestine, the meaning of Palestine, has returned to the map of the Middle East, since we and Mr. Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, had signed the recognition between PLO and the state of Israel, and in the same time Mr. Peres and Abu-Mazin signed the agreement under the auspices of President Clinton in the White House. We have to thank also Mr. Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, for his strong support and active support until we have the opportunity to achieve what we have achieved today. Thank you.

[Reporter] Mr. Chairman, when do you plan to come to Jericho and first to sign the agreement, the final agreement, with Prime Minister Rabin of Israel?

['Arafat] I hope, this will depend on the next committees, and I hope that it will be very soon. And also under the auspices of President Mubarak we will have it very soon here in Cairo. I hope so.

[Reporter] What are the issues that are still in trouble. I mean what are the points that are still in friction.

['Arafat] Actions speak louder. Let actions speak.

[Reporter] Mr. Peres, could you speak [words indistinct].

[Peres] First of all, I would like to thank the team of the Israelis and the team of the Palestinians. The chairman and myself spoke that they were really working and I think I am obliged and privileged to express [words indistinct] we went over some of the most difficult

[words indistinct]. We met with the Austrian president in [word indistinct] in Austria and Germany. The four cars take four persons, four policemen, and a Jeep. And then I asked them who was your enemy. If you don't have an enemy, you cannot put four persons on a Jeep. But when you have enemies, they would shoot them to kill. It is a different order. And I think that the chairman and us are interested in putting an end to it.

We have agreed on Gaza. We have agreed on the distribution of security and administration and dignity. I think both sides made a supreme effort. I think we solved most of the problems. Some of them will be dealt with in Taba because, you know the documents we signed are two. One is new pages on principles which is called the Cairo document and the old pages on the passages and the management in Jericho and in Gaza. The other of the two involving programs [words indistinct] the people of Taba. Taba is not a name, Taba is a way of thinking and Gaza is the same [words indistinct] all the problems which were before us were solved either completely [word indistinct] or the principles [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Question indistinct].

[Peres] Yes. We dealt with these problems and I think most of them were solved amicably.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Peres] I am sure that neither Chairman 'Arafat nor Prime Minister Rabin will remain unemployed people. They still have some jobs to do, you know.

[Reporter] President Mubarak, when do you think you might be able to host a similar meeting between the Israeli prime minister and the Syrian president?

[Mubarak] I hope that this could happen soon. But all what I could tell you about this point I am very optimistic for reaching a comprehensive settlement between Israel and Syria and even Israel and Jordan. So, this is on our concern. Then after that, whenever this process moves forward it will be easy for anybody to do the other one. There's no problem. We should concentrate our efforts on reaching an agreement with the other parties so as peace prevails which is very important, very vital, for the whole people all over the area.

[Reporter] Mr. Peres, Foreign Minister Peres, could you please tell us how you have assured Israel's security by this agreement? Some of the details by which you have assured the security of Israel?

[Peres] I think that it all began in Cairo. Chairman 'Arafat said that he will respect the security needs of Israel [words indistinct] and surely we cannot compromise on our security. We insisted that we have security measures. In other words, we have announced that we shall do whatever we can to introduce an air of dignity and respect for the Palestinian people. And from our side we tried to do it as much as we can. Occasionally, it wasn't simple, because what we call security, the Palestinians call dignity and what the Palestinians call dignity, we call security. So in names it is easier to do than problems to solve. But, I am very glad that we have solved all things this way.

[Reporter] Mr. Peres. You have said that you've come very close to actually solving it. Can you actually tell us what the solution is on three of the issues: Gaza, Jericho, and the third one. What is the actual solution that you have come to? What have you signed tonight?

[Peres] We shall make known the agreement and you will have to read many pages.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct].

[Peres] On what?

[Reporter] What is the size of Jericho?

[Peres] We have agreed on the passages as I have said. We have agreed on the arrangements in Gaza, and there will be actually three different zones. We have agreed on the size of Jericho. The final size will be decided between Chairman 'Arafat and Prime Minister Rabin when they meet. And, but, we have agreed on the other components of it. We have agreed on the security arrangements. We have agreed on the Palestinian authority, how they can run their own affairs without any intervention from outside. And we went over a very long list of problems. The real problem before us, for the Palestinians and the Israelis, is this is an unprecedented move. We cannot learn from anybody else. We cannot go to the library and take a book or a magazine and say here we are going to [word indistinct]. Every solution we have had to adopt was a precedented solution. That would be a good [words indistinct].

The hopes I believe, of the Palestinians, of us, and our children is that the reality is even better than the [words indistinct]. We intend very seriously to give a very good relations between the Palestinians and ourselves so that papers will not be needed at all. In order to build relations we need the papers. But if we shall have relations, we shall not need the papers. Thank you.

Paper Details Agreement

TA1002110894 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Feb 94 p 2

[Text] The following are the details of the agreement:

—Border crossings: Israel will have full responsibility for security at the Allenby Bridge and Rafah crossing, including the terminal.
—The manager of the Israeli terminal will be responsible for the administration and security of the installation.
—The Israeli manager will have two deputies: an Israeli representative—who will be responsible for the Israeli wing—with Israel having exclusive responsibility for the administration of the crossing in that sector; and a Palestinian deputy, who will be appointed by the Palestinian administration and will be in charge of the Palestinian wing. Each deputy will have an assistant

who will be in charge of security, while the duties of those responsible for Palestinian security will be agreed upon by both sides at the Taba talks.
—There will be maximum cooperation between the two sides in order to assure coordination in all mutual matters.
—Palestinian policemen at the terminal will be armed with revolvers. Their locations will be decided at the Taba talks. All the other Palestinian officials at the terminal will be unarmed.
—All the details pertaining to administration, coordination of security, and the liaison offices at the terminals will be discussed at the Taba talks.
—The two sides will cooperate in Taba to find ways to work out additional arrangements at the Rafah terminal.
—Visitors who arrive at the terminal will enter Gaza and Jericho as agreed upon, without interference by Israel.
—Visitors who leave the terminal will do so without interference from the Israeli authorities following a joint Israeli-Palestinian inspection of the necessary documents, with Israel having a veto right (over those entering and departing).

Arrangements for entry from Egypt and Jordan via the Palestinian side of the terminal:

—At the entry to the Palestinian terminal (into which only Palestinians will enter) there will be Palestinian policemen and a Palestinian flag.
—Before entering the Palestinian terminal travelers will hand over their personal luggage which will be placed on a conveyer belt. Each side will have the right to inspect the luggage in the inspection area, and if a need arises the luggage will be opened for inspection in the presence of its owners and a Palestinian policeman.
—People crossing the Palestinian terminal will pass through a magnetic gate. An Israeli policeman and a Palestinian policeman will stand on either side of the magnetic gate, and if any suspicion arises, each side can demand a body check at the gate. Travelers will be inspected by a Palestinian policeman in the presence of an Israeli policeman.
—If a traveler's identification is suspected each side has the right to question him. Interrogation is permitted if a person has been involved either directly or indirectly in criminal acts or planning a criminal act; in terrorism or planning a terrorist act; in hiding arms, explosives, or similar equipment; or in the case of someone bearing forged or invalid documents or unmatching documents.

Document on the security of the Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip:

—Israel is fully responsibility for carrying out all activity required to prevent contact or to give chase, and is committed to handing over Palestinians violating security to the Palestinian authorities. Treatment of Israelis who violate security will be handled exclusively by Israel.
—There will be Israeli patrols and there will be joint patrols in certain cases.
—All the coastal installations will be Israel's responsibility.
—Responsibility for traffic along the east-west roads from the settlements in the Gaza Strip to Israel is Israel's.
—Israel has the right to veto the entry of anybody it suspects and also has the prerogative to use its right to inspect documents to prevent the "right of return" by Palestinians.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Iraqi Minister Addresses Arab Economic Council

JN0902194194 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1832 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, 9 Feb (INA)—Dr. Muhammad Mahdi Salih, Iraqi trade minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the 53d session of the Arab Economic Council currently being held in Cairo, stressed that under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, Iraq will continue the process of reconstruction and production and its defiance to the aggression.

In a speech during the meetings, the minister said that the Iraqi people are determined to realize final victory and to end all the chapters of aggression. He said victory is an inevitable, unquestionable fact, despite the effects of the continued unjust blockade imposed on the Iraqi people.

An INA correspondent in Cairo cited the minister as saying that by imposing the unjust blockade and preventing Iraq from acquiring medicine, food, and other living requirements, the United States and Zionism want to harm Iraq after the failure of the military aggression. He said this has caused the death of hundreds of thousands of children and women.

He said the Arab nation possesses all the required economic, political, and human resources that qualify it to become a vanguard member of the international community and to seriously and capably confront challenges and dangers. He indicated that a common Arab market is an appropriate starting point for the realization of an Arab economic integration.

He stressed that some parties' separate proposals under the so-called new world order calling for the so-called Middle East market or regional blocs are basically a U.S.-Zionist project to fragment the Arab nation and grant Zionism an opportunity to control the Arab economy and steal Arab resources.

Concluding his speech, the trade minister stressed the importance of bolstering the role of economic unity and Arab economic agreements within the framework of the Arab League. He emphasized the need for supporting the joint Arab market and the joint Arab action strategy that

was approved in Amman in 1980 to confront the challenges facing the Arab nation.

Palestinian Affairs

Opposition 'Alliance' Assails 'Arafat Policies

JN0902192994 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Statement issued by the Alliance of the Palestinian Forces—place and date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The Alliance of the Palestinian Forces has held a meeting in which it discussed the latest political developments given the determination of 'Arafat and his team to plunge deeper into the quagmire of the liquidatory Oslo-Washington agreement and to make concession after concession in order to meet the Zionist enemy leaders' conditions, the latest of which was 'Arafat's declaration in Davos that he had no intention of establishing a Palestinian state, but that he was working to establish a confederation with Jordan.

On the occasion of the beginning of the 75th month of the intifadah, which coincides with the arrival of the blessed month of Ramadan, the Alliance of the Palestinian Forces extends its greetings and appreciation to the sons of the brave intifadah, who are stepping up their heroic deeds in the face of the growing violence of the enemy's soldiers and its herds of settlers. This is, in fact, a practical retaliation in order to topple the Gaza-Jericho agreement and to continue and escalate the intifadah against the invaders.

In light of these developments, the Alliance of the Palestinian Forces assert that the Palestine question is not the property of 'Arafat and his men and, therefore, he cannot do with it whatever he wishes because it belongs to the Palestinian people and their national forces, who reject liquidatory solutions, and who struggle to achieve our people's goals of repatriation, self-determination, and full national independence. What 'Arafat says basically means an annexation by Jordan of the partial self-rule authority, which is being rejected by the overwhelming majority of the sons of our Palestinian people.

This statement is aimed at reassuring the Zionist enemy. 'Arafat no longer speaks for or expresses the will of the Palestinian people. Therefore, his opinions and positions are no longer binding on our people.

The alliance again urges the sons of the Arab and Islamic nations, as well as all the forces that love freedom and peace, to take practical positions in support of our people's legitimate rights and to put an end to the rampage of Zionism, which uses the defeatism of 'Arafat and his team—this only represents a slight minority of our people inside and outside the occupied homeland—as a pretext to entrench its occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories.

The alliance urges the exposure of the United States' use of double standards and the extension of all sorts of support to the Zionist enemy in order to develop its military arsenal and to consider the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories as disputed territories.

The alliance will resolutely continue its policy to topple the Oslo-Washington agreement, strip 'Arafat and his team of their popular legitimacy, rebuild the PLO's institutions on democratic bases, and secure every means to prolong and escalate the brave intifadah and its unity under the banner of the unified national and Islamic unity of the intifadah.

[signed] The Alliance of the Palestinian Forces

Algeria

Foreign Minister: Dialogue Open to 'All Sincere Forces'

NC0902172894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1603 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Excerpt] Tunis, 9 Feb (MENA)—Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri has praised the cooperation and coordination between Egypt and Algeria. He described Egyptian-Algerian relations as solid, adding that an extensive program for joint bilateral cooperation has been in force for years, the most prominent result of which was the official visit to Cairo by Ali Kafi, then head of the Higher State Council, and his meeting with President Mubarak.

In an exclusive interview with a MENA correspondent in Tunis, Dembri noted a constant political dialogue between Egypt and Algeria to outline the main features of the two countries' common fate and the difficulties facing each country, adding that the circumstances each country is going through require constant rapprochement and closeness.

In the interview with MENA on the sidelines of the recent meeting of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] foreign ministers in Tunis, Dembri stressed that there is constant coordination and information exchange between the Egyptian and Algerian security authorities to determine ways to confront terrorism and extremism. He emphasized facing the conspiracies to which the two states are subjected as model states in the Arab world. He noted that the two must coordinate to protect their political position in the Arab world, since the stability of each country means the stability of the other Arab countries.

On the identity of the forces that are trying to shake up security and stability in Egypt and Algeria, Dembri said: Particular foreign quarters are plotting together against Egypt and Algeria and the responsible authorities in both countries have accurate information about them.

Dembri stressed that the policy of new Algerian President Liamine Zeroual seeks to achieve national accord among all Algerian forces and parties and to bring together all Algerians within a unified and prosperous community. He added that the dialogue the Algerian authority is holding with various Algerian forces is open to all sincere citizens without exception, representing the political structure of the dialogue and the building of an Algerian society that combines all its sons. The only exception, he added, is the exclusion of all signs of violence and armed extremism. He emphasized that the dialogue is open to all political forces in Algeria that reject violence as a means to achieve or stay in power.

Dembri noted that he agreed with his Moroccan counterpart and the secretary of the Libyan Committee for Unity during the recent AMU meetings in Tunis to hold meetings on a ministerial level to resolve the existing differences between Algeria and Morocco over the Sahara and those between Algeria and Libya. He said a working plan was established to overcome the difficulties.

Dembri noted that Algeria is now holding negotiations with the international financial and monetary institutions to implement a plan to build a new Algerian economy, an open, market economy, that could help to overcome the current and the expected difficulties. [passage omitted]

Curfew Hours Changed for Holy Month of Ramadan

LD0902193194 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] The Ministry of Interior and Local Authorities informs the citizens of the provinces of Algiers, Boumerdes, Blida, Medea, Tipaza, Ain Defla, Bouira, Djelfa, M'sila and Chlef, to which curfew applies, that on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan of 1414 AH [1994], it has been decided to change the curfew times. The curfew will become in force from midnight to 0400.

Egypt

Suspected 'Militants' Kill Policeman in Asyut

NC1002073594 Paris AFP in English 0558 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Text] Cairo, Feb 10 (AFP)—Suspected Islamic militants late Tuesday shot dead a plainclothes policeman and wounded three civilians outside a mosque in the southern Egyptian city of Asyut, police reported.

They said the assailants opened fire with automatic weapons on Officer Mahmud Ahmad as he left a mosque, adding that three civilians who were also leaving the building were hit as well.

Police launched a search of the area but the gunmen managed to flee.

The Asyut region, located 900 kilometers (600 miles) south of Cairo, has been the scene of frequent confrontations between security forces and Moslem militants seeking to overthrow the secular government of President Husni Mubarak.

According to an unofficial toll compiled by AFP from police sources, 297 people have been killed in the clashes—including 108 policemen and 95 fundamentalists—since the unrest erupted in March 1992.

Efforts To Lift Bosnian Arms Embargo Defended

NC0902173594 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1240 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Commentary by 'Atif 'Umar: "The Bosnian Issue Lies at the Heart of Egypt's Diplomatic Interest"]

[Text] There was nothing strange in Egypt's request to the UN Security Council to take all necessary measures to lift the arms embargo imposed on the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina following the Serb and Croat forces' exploitation of the world's failure to stop their repeated attacks on Muslims there and the escalation of their barbaric attacks on civilians. The latest crime was the ugly one that took place in Sarajevo's market on 5 February, which claimed the lives of 68 people and wounded 200 others.

Hence, there was nothing odd in seeing Egypt support a policy that is the opposite of its firm stance on international armaments and the arms race. Egypt's firm policy on this issue is based on the need to stop the arms race, to remove chemical and nuclear weapons, and to establish peace and stability in parts of the world where conditions allow. This policy underlines the credibility of international legitimacy, which has raised the slogan of security, stability, and human rights, and has decided to confront any aggression against peoples.

International legitimacy succeeded very effectively after the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. Reaction to this aggression showed the backing and support for what was termed international legitimacy and the hopes of many peoples, particularly the Third World peoples. But the Serbian aggression against human rights in Bosnia, which has continued for more than two years without appropriate action on the part of international legitimacy, has been a lethal blow to this legitimacy, especially as the television networks are conveying truthfully and without exaggeration what is happening on Bosnian territory and the barbaric crimes that humanity can only be ashamed of. This has prompted Europeans and Americans to stage dozens of demonstrations demanding that their governments take effective action to stop these aggressions that have distorted the image of Western civilization and underlined the imbalance of the human rights slogans raised by Western governments whose criteria differ noticeably from one country to another.

President Mubarak touched on the Bosnian tragedy when he met the Armed Forces officers and soldiers. He very clearly held the European countries responsible for what is happening there and reiterated that the international community has to uphold its full commitments to this problem in support of the credibility of international legitimacy and in order to save the principle of peaceful coexistence, which this legitimacy affirms.

Egypt's request to the Security Council to lift the embargo on arming the Bosnian people has met with some international welcome. Egypt stresses that its request falls within the context of the UN resolutions and charters, which stress the right of every country to self-defense against any outside aggression. The meetings that Egypt's UN permanent envoy has held with the heads of the five permanent member delegations in the Security Council on adopting appropriate deterrent measures against the aggressor Serbian forces represent a new action for Egyptian diplomacy.

Egypt, while moving in all directions to stop this tragedy, is certainly expressing the stifled cries in the hearts of Arab and Muslim peoples. It should be recalled that these peoples supported international legitimacy in repelling the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait even though Iraq was an Arab League member. All this underlines the credibility of the Arab people in dealing with issues without any double standards.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Notes Mosque Attack, Bosnia, Other Topics

EA0902162094 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1315 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, the president of the Republic, has condemned the 4 February incident in which a number of worshippers at the mosque of the Quarter One at al-Thawrah in Omdurman fell victim. He described the incident as strange to Sudanese society, particularly in view of the hideous nature of the crime. His Excellency did not rule out the involvement of foreign quarters, despite the fact that the statements of the criminals did not indicate this in the initial stage of the inquiry. During his meeting today with media leaders, al-Bashir commended the security organs for arresting the criminals and said the accused would be given a just trial immediately after the completion of investigations. He said Sudan's doors would remain open to anyone who wants to live with us in security and peace.

During his meeting today with media leaders, the president also said that decrees would be signed next week providing for the formation of the new states and the appointment of their governors, deputy governors and other members of their governments. He said in this connection that strong and trustworthy individuals with leadership capabilities would be chosen in accordance with the revolution's method of appointing political and executive leaders.

Lieutenant General al-Bashir also declared Sudan's readiness to send forces to preserve security and stability in Bosnia under the auspices of the United Nations. He appealed to Islamic states to send forces to put an end to the conspiracy being hatched against the Muslim Bosnian people.

Addresses Consultative Meeting

EA0902215194 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1540 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Feb (SUNA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, the president of the Republic, has said that Sudan will not give up its identity no matter how much pressures and statements against it multiply. He said Sudan's cultural plan required effort and patience and that Sudanese of various orientations did not differ on it. His Excellency explained at the first consultative

[shura] meeting yesterday evening, which was attended by many scholars and thinkers, that the causes of the economic problems included the weakness of the inherited economic structure, external economic pressures, the continuing war in the south and the need to find more economic inputs.

Al-Bashir said the war in the south was aimed against Sudan and its identity. Rebel Garang wanted to abolish the Islamic shari'ah in the country. The peace would only come when the rebels came to realize that they would fail to achieve their overt and covert aims by means of war.

Al-Bashir said the fruits of consultation (?link) the ruler and the ruled and enable the ruler to [word indistinct] and (?manage) matters (?which) lead to consensus on important questions.

'Sources' on Reasons Behind Attack on Mosque

PM1002105094 London AL-QUDS AL 'ARABI in Arabic 9 Feb 94 p1

[Text] Khartoum, AL-QUDS-AL-'ARABI—Sudanese sources yesterday confirmed that the attack launched by an extremist group on the Ansar al-Sunnah al-Muhammadiyah [upholders of the Muhammadan faith] mosque in Omdurman last Friday was a cover-up for a premeditated assassination operation targeting the Saudi businessman Usamah Bin-Ladin, who has been accused of funding the "Afghan Arabs" and who has been criticized by more than one Arab government, especially Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. It has even been claimed that some of them requested his extradition but there is no official confirmation of such claims.

The same sources said that Bin-Ladin, whose home neighboring the mosque was attacked by the group, as a result of which three of his visitors were wounded, used to stay at home and not leave there and was in the habit of receiving the engineers working for his company at 1700 every Friday. That is why the attack on his house was timed at 1630. The attackers searched all the rooms of the house for him, including his bedroom, and opened fire on the engineers, wounding three of them. Then they attacked the neighboring mosque to cover up the operation.

They added that the group consisted of four people, two of them Mauritanian, one Moroccan, and one Yemeni. They belonged to the extremist al-Takfir Wa al-Hijrah [renunciation and repudiation] Movement.

They said that some members of the movement held an open debate a week earlier at the same mosque that was attacked. They disagreed with and repudiated Ansar al-Sunnah and regarded Dr. Hasan al-Turabi and President al-Bashir and members of his government as infidels.

Sudanese security sources say that the way the group operated and carried out its attack confirmed that its members were well-trained professionals. They did not leave behind any passports, identity cards, or papers that would betray their identity or the parties financing them.

The sources also say that they came from different places and that the date of their entry into Sudan was not known. There are numerous questions the investigators are trying to find answers for as they interrogate the detained members of the group, especially the Yemeni who was wounded in the exchange of fire with the police during the attack.

The Sudanese sources emphasized that there was no connection between the mosque and Bin-Ladin although they did say that Ansar al-Sunnah al-Muhammadiyah, to which the mosque belongs, is an Islamic Wahhabi group known for its links with Saudi Arabia but with no significant activity or influence in Sudan to make it a target for such a serious attack. Furthermore, there are no differences between the Wahhabi group and Sudan.

It is worth noting that the Saudi businessman Bin-Ladin was one of the most prominent supporters of the Afghan Mojahedin when they were fighting for the liberation of Afghanistan from communist influence. He used his own money for the training of Arab volunteers and their transportation to join the Afghan mojahedin. He recently moved to Sudan and was the target of criticism by Egypt, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia.

TNA Urges European Parliament To Stop 'Interfering'

EA0902200594 Khartoum SUNA in French 1635 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Feb (SUNA)—The Transitional National Assembly, the parliament, has called on the European Parliament to stop interfering in the Sudan's internal affairs and to revise its attitude by obtaining firsthand information on the state of the country. The Sudanese parliament also called on the European Parliament to promote dialogue among the concerned parties in Sudan on the allegations made against Sudan by Western circles. In a communique issued in Khartoum on Wednesday, the Sudanese parliament cautioned against religious hatred, especially against Islam, calling on the European Parliament not to adopt politically motivated resolutions which could affect Sudan. The communique also condemned the plots against Sudan and the European Parliament's decision to suspend its assistance to Sudan under the Lome Convention.

Kuwait

Russian Antiaircraft Missiles, Weapons Found

NC0902143094 Paris AFP in English 1200 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Kuwait City, Feb 9 (AFP)—Police discovered portable Russian-made antiaircraft missiles and other weapons in a cemetery near here, an interior ministry official announced Wednesday.

Colonel 'Abd-al Hamid al-'Awadi, head of a crack police unit responsible for arms seizures, said three antitank rockets and a mortar were found along with the SA-7 Strela (arrow) missiles in the arms cache Sunday.

Al-'Awadi, quoted by newspapers here Wednesday, said the weapons were abandoned by unidentified persons.

The Iraqi Army left behind thousands of tons of military equipment when it withdrew from Kuwait in February 1991 after a seven-month occupation.

The authorities have seized thousands of weapons, including missiles and antiaircraft guns since an official deadline expired for the population to hand over abandoned Iraqi military equipment.

On January 10, Kuwaiti police said they had arrested a Saudi soldier trying to smuggle 36 crates of bullets into Saudi Arabia.

Yemen

Minister Says Accord Document To Be Signed in Jordan

JN0902123594 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Feb 94 pp 1, 22

[By Hamdan al-Hajj]

[Text] Brigadier General Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, deputy prime minister, has emphasized that the final signing of the pledge and accord document, concluded on 18 January, will take place in Amman on 15 February, and will be attended by His Majesty King Husayn, Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and his deputy 'Ali Salim al-Bid.

In a telephone interview with AL-DUSTUR from Paris, where he is receiving medical treatment, Brigadier General Abu-Shawarib said he will arrive in Amman next Friday to supervise and put the final touches to the signing ceremony.

He said the protocol arrangements have been left to the Jordanian side while the Political Forces Dialogue Committee in Yemen will finalize on Thursday the steps that will follow the signing ceremony, such as the return procedures for Yemeni officials to Sanaa and activating political action roles in Yemen.

Brigadier General Abu-Shawarib said participation in the signing ceremony will be restricted to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and five ranking members of his party and 'Ali Salim al-Bid and five prominent members of his party, in addition to 10 others representing the other organizations and national and independent figures.

He said the Socialist Party, headed by the Yemeni vice president, had demanded the attendance of ambassadors of some friendly and sisterly countries, but it was agreed that this issue be left to the Jordanian side because it is unacceptable to impose conditions on the host country.

Brigadier General Abu-Shawarib highly appreciated His Majesty King Husayn's sincere efforts toward realizing this agreement, and hailed the Jordanian people who showed concern about this issue, even more than the Yemenis themselves, and emphasized the need to return the situation to normal in Yemen.

He said all higher Yemeni organs and apparatuses, such as the Council of Ministers, Shura Council, and the House of Representatives, should be revitalized and convene so that things will return to normal. He expected that meetings would be held in Sanaa, but did not rule out that some meetings would be held in Aden if there was a need.

He said he hoped the agreement will be implemented and that Yemeni unity will be preserved. He added that His Majesty King Husayn's wisdom, spirit and presence will eliminate any obstacle to the agreement so that all will return with a satisfied and unified spirit.

Brigadier General Abu-Shawarib told AL-DUSTUR that he delayed surgery he should have undergone recently until after the signing of the agreement in Amman, adding that Yemen is more durable than individuals. Abu-Shawarib is suffering from a lung infection.

Al-Bid To Sign Political Accord 'Expeditiously'

JN0902183394 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1851 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Sanaa, 9 Feb (INA)—'Ali Salim al-Bid, Yemeni vice president and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, has announced he will expeditiously and finally sign the document of pledge and accord signed by the Yemeni parties recently. In press statements published in Aden, al-Bid said that by signing the document his party supports all the options of the Yemeni people. He called for Yemeni coherence for the sake of Yemen's unity and awakening.

Al-Bid accused some parties of trying to create an atmosphere that would prevent him from signing, adding that the signing will take place as soon as possible. He said what counts is not the signing of the document, but its implementation.

Importance of Signing Noted

JN0902211794 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council, met in the economic and commercial capital, Aden, today with the brother representatives of the Shabwah Governorate expanded popular gathering, who briefed him on the results of the gathering held on 5 February under the slogan: "For the sake of a United and Effective Stand of the Governorate's Sons To Defend Unity, Democracy, Justice, and Social Development."

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid delivered a speech in which he welcomed the brother representatives of the popular gathering of the sons of the Shabwah Governorate and blessed the successes and results that the gathering has produced. He also congratulated them, as well as the masses of our Yemeni people on the arrival of the month of Ramadan. On this blessed occasion, he said, we wish you many happy returns, and we hope that this month will return to us while our country is in a good situation, God willing.

The Presidential Council vice chairman explained the importance of the accord document initialed in Aden. He said: We initialed the document. We will sign it expeditiously and finally and we will work along with all honorable people to implement and embody it on the ground and on the path of the homeland's progress toward a better future. He urged all the political parties and social figures and all good people to make the accord document a national program for themselves. He stressed that the Yemeni Socialist Party will be at the forefront of those who are working to implement the document.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid then stressed the importance of unity and cohesion among the sons of the Yemeni people from Sa'dah to al- Mahrah, as well as fighting the idea of division in the minds of the Yemenis, pointing out that popular gatherings in the governorates are the ones to which the document will go after being finally signed. He urged the sons of the Shabwah Governorate to be at the forefront of those who call for forming a broad front to glorify the document and comply with its contents. He blessed the efforts of the sons of the governorate to patch up differences and resolve the issues of revenge before the end of this year. Concluding, brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid wished the Shabwah Governorate sons every success. the meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Haydarah Masdus and several officials. [passage omitted]

Guarantee Formulas Discussed

JN0902210394 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] The Political Forces Dialogue Committee held a meeting in Sanaa today. The representatives of the parties to the dialogue committee took part in the meeting. The conferees resumed discussions and deliberations on one of the topics of agenda related to the implementation guarantees. A number of the committee members presented their opinions, proposals, and views that would produce the appropriate formula to achieve national consensus and to define the real bases of the guarantees of implementing the accord document following its signing in the Jordanian capital, Amman.

Following a length discussion, the committee members agreed to refer the various views and formulas presented by the representatives of the parties to the political dialogue to a mini-committee. This committee will review them as a first step in preparing a unified formula to (?endorse it) within the required guarantees in order to implement the document and to present it to the expanded meeting which the committee will hold on 10 February in order to endorse it and to discuss the rest of the topics on the committee's agenda.

Ugandan Plane Allowed To Leave; Cargo Seized

JN0902151394 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] In Sanaa, Yemeni sources have declared that the Ugandan plane that had been forced to land in Yemen by Yemeni warplanes last Sunday has been allowed to take off for Uganda after the northern Yemeni Armed Forces seized its cargo, which belongs to the southern authorities. Military sources in Sanaa said the cargo includes, specifically, a large number of batteries and 15 telecommunications sets for military purposes. However, the Aden authorities insist the plane's cargo included nothing but equipment for civilian purposes.

UN's Ekeus Urged To 'Speak Up' Against Embargo

JN0902125894 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 5 Feb 94 pp 1, 2

[Article by Chief Editor Salah al-Mukhtar: "An Open Letter to the Human Ekeus"]

[Text] On your previous mission in Iraq, I addressed you with words full of hope, appealing to the human and civilized side of your esteemed self. I did that on the occasion of your visit to the victims of the fiercest barbaric campaign in history against an entire nation under siege, in which thousands of people are suffering slow death from hunger, disease, and sadness. I reminded you that the "civilized" people of the West care about animals and birds and form organizations to protect them, despite the fact that those "civilized" people spend a lot of time thinking about new ways to annihilate other nations without showing any mercy or having any second thoughts.

At the time, I did not expect Your Excellency to respond, comment, or react immediately, for many reasons. Primarily, the nature of your mission, which is to supervise the dismantling of Iraq's strategic weapons, in the name of the United Nations. This mission requires a person who has no heart and no feelings in order for him to pass by piles of bodies without showing any sign of sadness.

Indeed, yours is a tough mission. And a very sensitive one. You know very well that the embargo is daily claiming lives of men, women, children, and elderly. It is also undermining family ties and destroying the foundations of natural life. The embargo is said to be justified against the backdrop of the "Kuwait problem." However, the human that lurks in the depth of the international envoy can never disregard the fact that this embargo has taken a course that has nothing to do with the Kuwait issue and entered into the labyrinths of international politics and its games, which can get very ugly.

Yesterday, I was heartened to see that the human lurking deep within you could not be suppressed by your "international mission." This human shouted loud in protest and shed the robe of callousness and disregard for the inhuman effects of the embargo, when tears filled your eyes while you were listening to the mother of a martyred child that did not complete its first year and the wife of a martyred young man who had not yet turned 30. The woman was telling you about her tragedy and that of thousands of Iraqis who were killed by a hand wearing a velvet glove with the letters UN imprinted on it.

A Belgian reporter commented on your tears by saying: "Impossible. Can Mr. Ekeus shed real tears? How can this cold-hearted person cry?" I felt that this reporter was unfair. I am very confident that your tears were true and that your sympathy toward the noble Iraqi woman, Zahra' Yahya, was also true. I am also absolutely confident that that moment was one of your most painful experiences. All of this is good and proves that the seeds of good and humanity are still alive, even in the hearts of those assigned inhuman missions.

Allow me, Ambassador Ekeus, to pursue this civilized dialogue by asking a question which obsessed me for quite a while. Do Mr. Ekeus's tears signal that he will not separate his feelings and convictions as a human being from his mission as an international official? We have heard about, and seen, humans whose words and feelings are full of humanity but their deeds are alien to their feelings, as if they are done by other people. Yet, they smile confidently and say: Our feelings are one thing; our duty is another.

This answer sums up the tragedy of the Western mind that separates job requirements and personal beliefs. Such a separation could be acceptable if there was no other choice. But how can we understand the obvious contradiction between a person's feelings and his job requirements, when this person can choose one of a thousand jobs in which he can reconcile his beliefs and job requirements?

I am sure that Your Excellency, by virtue of your high qualifications, will not die of hunger if you speak up and say: Enough. The United Nations should decide tomorrow, and not after tomorrow, to lift the embargo to stop the tragedy of death and suffering in Iraq.

Perhaps, Your Excellency might reply: The United States will not respond. This might indeed be the case. However, your testimony will deliver the coup de grace that will put an end to the U.S. reasoning and deprive the bloodsuckers in Washington of any covers in the face of the United Nations and an angry world public opinion that rejects the annihilation of nations.

Are you going to settle the contradiction between your beliefs and duties, Mr. Ekeus? We in Iraq are resolved to end the blockade. We have done a great deal toward achieving this objective. But we want the good-intentioned, and you are one of them, to win their humanity before the blockade is lifted while they are still captive to a destructive contradiction between human feelings and job requirements.

Prime Minister, Pakistani Envoy Meet

JN0902201994 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmad Husayn Khudayyir this evening received Asif Zardari, Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's personal envoy to leader President Saddam Husayn, and his delegation. During the meeting, the prime minister received a written message from Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutti for leader President Saddam Husayn on relations between the two friendly countries.

The prime minister said that relations between Iraq and Pakistan were close and developed, especially with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, as well as between the two friendly peoples. He stressed the determination to promote these relations in light of the longstanding history of good relations in the interest of the two Muslim peoples. He added that leader President Saddam Husayn is interested in promoting bilateral relations in all fields in the interest of the two peoples.

The prime minister stressed that the circumstances experienced by Iraq are transient, that the unjust blockade will be removed, and that Iraq will recover.

The prime minister reviewed the reconstruction campaign of the installations that were destroyed by the 30-state aggression, the gigantic new projects implemented over the past three years, and the great expertise the Iraqis have acquired as a result of their self-reliance in the implementation of these projects.

Asif Zardari, Benazir Bhutto's personal envoy to leader President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, said: I am carrying good wishes to leader President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi government and people from the Pakistani prime minister and people. My visit expresses the good intentions of the Pakistani people toward the Iraqi people and leadership in light of the close bilateral relations.

He expressed admiration for Iraq's reconstruction experiment and ability to implement new projects under the current circumstances. He stressed the Pakistani Government's desire to promote bilateral relations in all fields and to benefit from both sides' technical expertise.

The meeting was attended by Hamid Salih al-Rawi, head of the Council of Ministers' secretariat and Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the Pakistani ambassador in Baghdad.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives Jordanian Party Delegation

JN0902175394 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Comrade Tariq 'Aziz, official in charge of the Foreign Relations Bureau at the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today received a Jordanian Arab Democratic Party delegation under Samir al-Habashinah, deputy secretary general of the party and member of the Jordanian House of Representative.

Comrade Tariq 'Aziz stressed that Iraq, under leader President Saddam Husayn will continue the confrontation against the aggression and the unjust blockade. He stressed the importance of solidarity and coordination among all Arab nationalist and pan-Arab forces to confront the challenges to the Arab nation.

During the meeting, which was attended by the comrade director of the Foreign Relations Bureau at the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the two sides discussed ways to strengthen relations between the two parties to enhance pan-Arab objectives.

Radio Notes President's Son Supervising Security Units

NC0902171594 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] According to our sources in Iraqi Kurdistan, the criminal Qusayy, tyrant Saddam's son, has formed special security units, which he is supervising personally. Their task is to encircle the Mosul [Ninawa] Governorate and set up checkpoints on important roads and inside the governorate's towns and villages. Our sources view this as an attempt to block all access roads into the governorate and prevent infiltration by opposition groups.

In the past few months, the city of Mosul and the surrounding countryside were the scenes of many revolutionary operations and armed assaults against ruling party offices, security centers, and intelligence departments. The operations escalated such that they became almost daily occurrences.

Our sources say that the checkpoints deployed by the criminal Qusayy search all citizens and vehicles entering the governorate and the city of Mosul in particular.

Elsewhere, the criminal Khalid [no surname as heard], an officer in Saddam's security apparatus, was killed and two of his escorts were wounded when they were attacked by an Islamic Resistance hero on the road to Suq al-Shuyukh District in al-Nasiriyah [Dhi Qar] Governorate in the middle of January.

Our sources in southern Iraq said a security detail that the officer was commanding tried to arrest the struggler, who belonged to the Al-Ghumays clan. The struggler pulled an 8.5-mm pistol and shot and killed the security officer. He then opened fire on the remaining members of the detail, killing [as heard] two and wounding another before being martyred himself when he ran out of ammunition.

The Islamic Resistance forces evacuated the body of the heroic martyr to their positions to the rear.

Paper Questions Clinton's 'Unreasonable Conduct'

JN0902171194 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 6 Feb 94 p 7

[From the "Windows" column by Diya' Hasan: "Which Disease has Hit Clinton?!]

[Text] I cannot explain U.S. President Bill Clinton's unreasonable conduct. I wonder if it is the result of catching one of the mysterious diseases unleashed by the Gulf War, or if it is a manifestation of early senility.

A few days ago, he came up with what is said to be a carefully drafted report he will submit to Congress. In

this report, he claims Iraq has continued to produce nuclear weapons. In his fits of imagination, however, Clinton fails to substantiate his charges by identifying the place where these weapons are produced, or mentioning the components of these weapons allegedly produced by Iraq.

The senility charge against Clinton is substantiated by the fact that he has begun to see things nobody else sees. He is urging others to believe claims he himself, before others, knows to be baseless things, the products of his own imagination. Otherwise, how could Iraq produce weapons, traces of the components of which are not found on its territory, as international experts have acknowledged? There are international monitoring cameras installed at its plants. Moreover, there are UN helicopters monitoring banned activities.

Clinton's task is currently confined to anti-Iraq instigation. This seems to be his personal obsession. Still, overindulgence in imagination will eventually make him unstable. He will eventually become a hostage to a chronic disease, to depression and to allergy to Iraq's recovery, that will be promoted day in and day out. The end result is that Clinton will continue to grow weak and shrivel, regardless of the lies he promotes.

Paper Examines U.S. Effort To Prolong Blockade

JN0802202194 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 30 Jan 94 p 2

["Standpoint" column: "U.S. Double-Dealing Once Again" by 'Isa Isma'il al-'Abbadi]

[Text] The U.S. decision to supply "Israel" with the most advanced F-20 and F-16 combat aircraft shows that Washington is determined to continue down its present dangerous course of dealing with international issues and hotbeds of tension in the world. "Israel" is known for its expansionist policy and its use of all means of force and armed military aggression to entrench its occupation of Arab and Palestinian territories. It is also known for its armed aggression against Arab countries that are not directly adjacent to Palestine, as was the case of its aggression on Iraq and other Arab countries.

Washington openly speaks about U.S. commitment to maintain "Israel's" qualitative military superiority over the Arabs, yet it presents itself as a peace "broker" between "Arab" regimes and Tel Aviv. Now how can this happen? How can Washington convince the Arabs that it can be an honest peace "broker" while it help entrench Zionist aggression and ensure Zionist superiority over the Arabs? Not only that, Washington also speaks about democracy and human rights while it wages wars and kills thousands of human beings annually in various parts of the world in the name of democracy and human rights. Furthermore, its unlimited military support for Israel ignores "Israel's" long record of oppression and violation of Palestinian human rights. The Zionists besiege dozens of Palestinian towns and villages, blow up Palestinian homes, confiscate hundreds of acres of land, kill Palestinian demonstrators protesting the occupation, and drive hundreds of Palestinians to prisons and detention camps daily. Yet, the United States overlooks this criminal record of the Zionists. It supplies Tel Aviv with new modern weapons and pledges to back its military superiority while at the same time it deprives the Arabs of the means of self-defense.

The United States would not have been able to push further along this course had it not found among "Arabs" those who are ready to squander Arab funds on the crumbs of American tables, those who are willing to receive any old useless weapon or aircraft that is thrown to them. Otherwise, how can we explain Washington's supplying the most update military aircraft to Tel Aviv versus the sale of old F- 15 aircraft to Saudi Arabia? Against whom would Riyadh use these aircraft? And, who could be threatening Saudi Arabia when it has strong relations with "Israel," both in secret and in the open?

Anyone who follows the list of U.S. weapons that have been sold to Saudi Arabia over the past two decades will find that the United States had "swallowed up" tens of billions of dollars (other than the billions spent on the 30-state aggression). One would assume that all that money had gone toward selling Saudi Arabia leftover weapons from World War II. Nobody knows anything about the fate of those weapons and whether they actually arrived in Saudi Arabia, or if all those deals were merely fiction. What is certain, however, are the billions of dollars that Washington has received in return for one real thing; namely, maintaining "Israel's" military superiority.

While pointing to U.S. double-dealing and Washington's double standards in dealing with international issues and areas of tension in the world, we call upon the other "big powers" to tackle the same international issues with a good measure of evenhandedness and justice. Isn't it unreasonable for the United States to insist, through international organizations and all illegal means, on depriving countries of even a knife to use in self-defense while providing Israel with the most modern and high tech weapons?

Even the concept of "friendship" is different in Washington. Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who are supposed to be the friends of the United States, are not getting the sophisticated weapons received by Washington's other friend Yitzhaq Rabin. Still, Mubarak and Fahd are sweating and working day and night in order to please the United States. Not only that, they are also trying to pressure others, weaken their position and drag them into the American camp.

The big powers, especially the United States, are called upon to adopt more balanced stands in dealing with states and issues relating to international peace and security. It is unreasonable for these powers to prolong the unfair blockade on Iraq when it has fulfilled all its

obligations under UN Security Council Resolution 687 and while Washington continues to strengthen Zionist military capabilities with more sophisticated weapons, knowing full well that "Israel" is sitting on an arsenal of nuclear weapons and aiming the warheads at the Arab countries.

Paper Notes Iran's 'Interference' in Other Countries

JN1002104194 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 6 Feb 94 p 7

["Standpoint" column: "Iran and Export of Anarchy" by 'Isa Isma'il al-'Abbadi]

[Text] The Iranian regime continues to interfere in the internal affairs of Arabs and Muslims instead of paying attention to its aggravating problems resulting from its haphazard policies and inability to find solutions to the difficulties of the peoples of Iran, the majority of whom are living below the poverty line. The Iraqis taught this regime a hard lesson when it attempted to meddle in their affairs. The Iraqis waged the second al-Qadisiyah battle [the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iran war] and inflicted on the Tehran regime a comprehensive defeat. And when the Iranian regime attempted to interfere in Iraqi affairs through the chapter of treason and treachery [the 1991 pro-Iran shiite rebellion in southern Iraq] it faced the same fate despite the fact that it tried to confuse the situation and enter under the broken wings of the 30-state aggression.

From the Arab east to the Arab west, Arabs and Muslims are aware that the Iranian regime is trying to interfere in their internal affairs and is working to foment seditions and anarchy under false slogans.

In a statement, the Jordanian Government announced that Jordan wants to make the size of the Iranian diplomatic mission in Amman equal to the size of the Jordanian diplomatic mission in Tehran. However, diplomats in the Jordanian capital say that Jordan adopted this position after its security organs became certain that Iran tried to interfere in last November's parliamentary elections. It has also been revealed that Iran had continuous contacts with groups bent on creating anarchy in Jordan.

In Algiers, the newspaper AL-SHA'B has strongly condemned Iran's blatant interference in Algeria's internal affairs and its attempt to cast doubt on the appointment of Liamine Zeroual as the new president of the country. The newspaper said that Algeria will not accept any claims by the regime controlled Iranian media under any circumstances or justification and will vehemently refuse to take lessons from a regime that has failed to manage its internal affairs and led its people to the brink of bankruptcy and collapse.

The Algerian paper noted that Iran is forgetting its isolation, suffering, and support for terrorism, and that it has exported destructive ideology to make Algeria a den of extremism. Iran, the paper said, has unleashed its media to spit venom against Algeria and its unity.

These facts extend across the Arab world from the east to the west. When will the Iranian regime stop its attempts to play the role of an untrusted trustee over Arab and Muslim affairs? Undoubtedly, the Iranian regime, which is being disturbed by armed popular resistance in many big cities and in hundreds of villages and districts, is incapable of playing any positive and constructive role in the region. Its unceasing interference in Arab and Islamic affairs will only increase its regional and international isolation.

Actions of Saudi, Iranian Regimes Criticized

JN0902181894 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 4 Feb 94 p 3

[Article by al-Shaykh 'Ali al-'Ujayli: "Our Enemies and the Historic Mistake"]

[Text] In his speech to commanders on Army Day, leader President Saddam Husayn emphasized several sensitive points. He said: Having given up on the possibility of achieving a military victory; having used their air force and guided missiles for months without being able to shake up our domestic front despite the enormous destruction they caused to our lifelines; having discovered that a ground war, if attempted, would result in a great disaster for them; and having watched the Iraqis occupy al-Khafji without air cover, the enemies resorted to treachery and treason. They turned to the Iranian regime of ayatollahs that has raised the slogan of war against the arch satan in order to mislead the simpletons and to pretend that it is not in league with the arch satan and, in fact, with all the satans in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf. The Iranian rulers have carried out this disgraceful act, despite all its meanness, deception, and betrayal of a Muslim neighbor, in order to support the unjust infidel and to seek revenge from Iraq for defeating them and foiling their plans in the second al-Qadisiyah [Iraq-Iran war]—hence their inferiority complex.

The leader president commented on that by saying: Withdrawal from Kuwait was not within our plans, if it had not for that treachery. We wanted to deprive the enemies of any opportunity to undermine the domestic front, which was our main concern. As for the question of fighting the enemies, that was something else. If circumstances did not let us fight the enemies outside the border, we were ready to fight them inside Iraq. We planned to draw them into the cities, and thus foil their plans against our domestic front.

So the enemies know the secret of Iraqi steadfastness. It is the solid domestic front, which our wise leadership has considered the main base. It is, in fact, the object and means of the revolution and its ambitious programs. When the enemies realized their treachery had little effect by any military standards—it certainly failed in its strategic aim to overthrow the regime and to establish a

foothold on our land—they declared a unilateral ceasefire, thereby acknowledging their military and political defeat despite all the international mobilization and the propaganda campaign which carried on for 400 [as published] hours daily.

Since the enemies can justify their premeditated action in using Iran to carry out their treachery—in view of their well-known baseness since the days of Khalid Bin-al-Walid and Salah al-Din's encounter with the Crusaders, Iran will not be able to justify its action. The enemies are infidels who claim no religion or mission. But what do the ayatollahs, who are entrenched in the vestibules of trickery, have to say when they claim to be faithful and good Muslims, who uphold the values and ethics of the chaste imams?!!

Due to their strong disappointment, the treacherous used their lackeys, those rotten head traitors, to establish a new situation in northern Iraq that was bound to disappear, and to divide Iraq into small sectarian or ethnic states, so it would be easy for them to control its resources and to end the blessed revolution march of the Ba'th Party and its masses.

If we go back to enemy plans and designs we will discover that they had indeed planned for such a situation. They knew that a military victory over Iraq was an impossibility. So they pinned their hopes on their agents here and there to carry out the plan of splitting Iraq and turning it into another Lebanon.

There are several points in common between the al-Sa'ud family and the Tehran regime, whether they conduct their relations openly or secretly —"the claimants of religion" in Riyadh are of a Jewish descent dating back to 'Abdallah Ibn-Saba, who extended a secret hand to the Persian Mazdaist Abu Lu'lu'ah Fayruz [name as published] in order to stab the Caliph Faruq for a cause that was more than personal.

Historical documents prove the al-Sa'ud are nothing more than a guided tool in the hand of the foreigner, and that Iran had never been ruled by a ruler who was sincere to Islam or friendly to the Arabs. The al-Sa'ud cannot also be dissociated from Zionist Jewish policy. One can trace that by considering their common attitude, as well as their independent stands, toward the Ottoman position on the Palestine question.

Put simply, the al-Sa'ud are in full harmony with all or most of the Zionist Protocols. A book published by Ahmad Baha' al-Din in 1967 under the title: "Israiliyat" contains all the details of this harmonious relationship.

All historical documents show the al-Sa'ud were never a party to any sincere Arab plan that was hostile to Jews, imperialism, and Zionism. Whenever they were forced, they simply promised, but they never fulfilled their promise.

In fact, the al-Sa'ud's history shows their hatred to Arab nationalism. We have all read about their armed raids and attacks on Arab tribes in the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen. Even the Gulf sheikhdoms and the al-Sabah of Kuwait know that, and hold memories of stands which may not be clear to the reader now.

The al-Sa'ud attacked Yemen in 1934. Their position on Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir's intervention in Yemen and their secret involvement in the June 1967 setback are well known. Their relationship with Egypt only deepened after 'Abd al-Nasir's departure.

Here is Henry Kissinger explaining to us the roles played by the agents in the region. In an article in THE WASHINGTON POST published in August 1992, Kissinger says: The climate in the Middle East became good and suitable for a settlement satisfactory to Israel after the following:

—The collapse of the USSR.

—The destruction of Iraqi power. Kissinger points out that Iraqi power did not represent one country but a whole nation. He also referred to the Iraqi role in 1967 and 1973. He declared that the agents in Saudi Arabia were a great support for what had happened. They asked the United States in 1967 to direct a blow to 'Abd al-Nasir. The also instigated the aggression against Iraq and allocated "$700 billion" [as published] as a minimum sum for the costs of the aggression.

It has been proven that the Saudi Government told criminal Bush that it would revamp its military establishment after the Gulf War by spending sums to the tune of $12 billion, and that criminal Bush convinced the Congress to sell 72 F-15, 18 F-15E, and 24 F-15H aircraft to Saudi Arabia to make it the central Arab power in the post-war period to help achieve the short-term and strategic aims of the imperialist-Zionist plan. As for the liberation of Palestine, it is an empty slogan which the al-Sa'ud have made meaningless.

The roles of the Iranian Persian side and the al-Sa'ud side, which is of Jewish lineage and spirit, may appear contradictory on the outside, but they are harmonious in substance, aim, and purpose. The Khomeynite phenomenon raised the slogan of "exporting the revolution" to eliminate the Arab national identity, and the al-Sa'ud Wahhabist Movement sought to divide the nation for the sake of its common interests with the covetous foreign infidel.

When the leader president referred to the historic mistake—telling Iraqi commanders on Army Day this year that Iraq did not commit a historic mistake during the Gulf War—he wanted to draw a clear line between our principles that are reinforced by noble values, and enemy stands that are full of falsehood, deception, and evil cunning. The stands were historic mistakes in part and parcel, and in intention, action, thought, and reality. Throughout the years, the enemies have been committing mistakes history has recorded against them. It is as

if they are born with a stigma on their foreheads, a lineage stigma of meanness and villainy carried from generation to generation.

Perhaps, time and some form of self re-examination will enable those who forgot or pretended to forget to learn the lesson of history.

Zhalah Commander Interviewed on Turkish Raid

NC0902135594 Istanbul OZGUR GUNDEM in Turkish 1 Feb 94 p 12

[Telephone interview with Numan Ucar, alias Mahir, the commander of the People's Liberation Army of Kurdistan Zhalah camp in Iraq, in Cologne, Germany, by Behcet Avsar; date not given]

[Text] [Avsar] What were the aims and results of the operation launched against Zhalah?

[Ucar] The operation was the most comprehensive air attack against us. Contrary to claims by the Turkish Government, Zhalah plays no role in "training and sending guerrillas to Turkey." The reason for exaggerating the importance of the Zhalah camp, which has a role of its own, is the impasse in the war. The aim is to create the impression that our struggle does not come from inside Turkey, but from abroad. That is why they decided to attack. Another factor in this attack is the new alliance forged between Turkey and Israel. This is an alliance forged by the forces of reaction in the Middle East. This attack is also a sign that Turkey has become a dangerous factor in the Middle East and that if need be it could attack the peoples of the Middle East with the support of imperialist and reactionary forces.

We knew of the possibility of attack at any time, motivated by the ill-temper bred by war. So we took additional measures a few days before the raid. Our forces were constantly alert and always ready.

The raid started at 0900. As reported, some 50 planes took part. The second raid came at 1400. This attack too lasted 45 minutes.

With this attack, the Turkish Republic showed that it represents a threat, not only to our struggle, but to the entire Kurdish people. While attacking our positions, they did not forget to attack our people in southern Iraq and eastern Iran. Seven people were killed and seven others were wounded on our side.

Four villages were bombed in east Kurdistan. There were nine to 10 dead and over 20 wounded. Some 50 animals were destroyed. They attacked every living thing in the region. Two villages were attacked in south Kurdistan, where five people were killed. Material damage was also caused to the villages in south Kurdistan. Claims that "an ammunition dump was blown up" are not correct. The smoke arose from our five to 10 barrels of fuel. Some of our tents were destroyed by shrapnel. Normal activity is continuing in the camp.

[Avsar] Is it true that the leaders' headquarters and communications room were destroyed?

[Ucar] Our radio broadcasts and wireless communications are continuing uninterrupted. As for the destruction of leading cadres: The Kurdish Workers Party [PKK] leading cadres never stay together in the same region or spot. They are in areas were fighting is taking place. Besides, the PKK's leading cadres exist in every locality where we are active.

[Avsar] What was the reaction of the people of south Kurdistan against the operation?

[Ucar] This is an important issue. Our people around the camp in south Kurdistan acted with intense dedication. They acted in a spirit of national unity and solidarity. The people of south Kurdistan acted in great solidarity fearing that many of our people might have been hurt. Some 5,000 people gathered in front of the hospital, where our wounded were taken, to give blood. Soon after the attack, a convoy arrived to carry our wounded and martyrs. This attack once more proved that the more the Kurdish people are attacked, the greater the unity and solidarity that will be forged.

[Avsar] Why was Zhalah selected for the raid? Did Zhalah take the place of al-Biqa'?

[Ucar] As you know, the Turkish Government came to office making great promises. Intense psychological propaganda was launched: "We will crush the PKK. We will wipe out the PKK by March 1994." All the tools in the hands of the special warfare—including the press, General Staff, president, and the special governor—tried to mislead the public by claiming that the special warfare was succeeding. They also gave clear guarantees to international forums that they would crush our struggle by March 1994. But we are close to March and the Army hasn't struck a blow to our forces nor have the Kurdish people left Kurdistan, despite the torching of hundreds of villages. They created the impression that a great blow had been dealt to us with the closure of our associations in Germany and France. And recently, they tried to divert attention from the struggle inside the country by stepping up the propaganda about the Zhalah camp. By claiming to have destroyed Zhalah, which they asserted has supplanted al-Biqa', they actually aimed to shore up their image before the elections. Zhalah camp can never supplant Mahsum Korkmaz Academy, the PKK's camp in the al-Biqa' valley. It has assumed no such function.

[Avsar] The press reported that the operation coincided with the devaluation of the Turkish lira. Do you think it was mere coincidence for these two events to follow each other so closely?

[Ucar] The operation was due to be launched much earlier. But it coincided with the devaluation in Turkey. But that's not all. Despite major scandals and failures in the government, virtual national unity and covenant, which will last until the elections, has been forged against our struggle. On the eve of the election, the regime has

surrendered to the military. The National Security Council makes decisions on the instructions of the General Staff. Little time remains before the chief of the General Staff's term expires. All these factors coincided, that is, the need for the government to raise its morale before the elections, the intention to draw the people's attention abroad, and the major economic turmoil were all factors leading to the operation.

[Avsar] Will you respond to this operation?

[Ucar] Our war, with all the attacks launched so far, has given the necessary reply. We have no intention of making a special reply. We will respond by perpetuating, developing, and intensifying our war.

[Avsar] You told the press that you shot down two warplanes. What will you say on this subject?

[Ucar] Yes, many Turkish planes were hit during the attack. We saw one plane fall near the camp. A search is under way to locate the wreck. There are also claims that helicopters also took part in the operation. These helicopters too are searching for the wreckage. Another plane reportedly fell on the Iranian side, but we are not sure about that second plane.

[Avsar] Reportedly, other operations are also taking place near Kanimasi and troops have been brought to Dahuk.

[Ucar] We have some information in this regard. We have received reports that tanks and troops have been massed in Kanimasi and that the Democratic Party of Kurdistan will participate in these operations. We have made preparations to retaliate.

Rabin Thanks Mubarak for Efforts in Accord Signing

TA0902222294 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2200 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Report by Sefi Handler]

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak telephoned Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin about 15 minutes ago. Rabin conveyed his appreciation for the efforts exerted in Cairo and his delight in seeing the end of the current stage of the negotiations with the Palestinians. Rabin voiced his appreciation for Mubarak and the other Egyptian figures who played a role in the mediation which culminated in a signed agreement.

Husni Mubarak invited the prime minister to Cairo. Rabin said he will gladly come, but he will wait for the formulation of the entire agreement to be completed. There is still much work to be done, the prime minister told Husni Mubarak. When the entire agreement is formulated and its implementation is launched, I will come to Cairo, he said.

Rabin Interviewed on Reaction to Cairo Agreement

TA1002080494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Telephone interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Karmit Gay and political correspondent Shlomo Raz; place not given—live]

[Text] [Gay] Can you tell us this morning that the security issue has been resolved to our complete satisfaction?

[Rabin] First of all, one must remember that when talking about the negotiations with the Palestinians and with the PLO on the implementation of the Declaration of Principles [DOP] signed in Washington, we are dealing with the creation of a very complex situation. An attempt to bring about peaceful coexistence between two entities which still harbor some remnants of suspicion and hatred for each other. These two entities are jumbled together geographically with tens of thousands of cars crossing from one entity to the other every day.

Therefore, the situation we wish to create is very complex and we must first and foremost guarantee the security issues. I think that we have taken an important step forward toward implementing the first stage of the DOP, and I am referring to Gaza-Jericho First. What was achieved overall? First of all, the issue of external security has been guaranteed. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will be deployed and will remain in control of all the external lines: the line separating Judaea, Samaria and Jordan along the Jordan River, and the international border between Egypt and Israel.

The border crossings and the terminals near the Allenby Bridge and Rafah will be situated in an area under IDF control. Anyone familiar with the Allenby Bridge terminal knows that it is made up of IDF outposts which are situated several dozen or hundreds of meters from each other. The border crossings themselves feature security arrangements stipulated in the DOP calling for joint cooperation and a Palestinian presence. There will be two sections at the crossing: one for Israelis and foreign nationals and a second wing for Palestinians. There will also be adequate control measures to prevent the entrance of terrorists, the smuggling of weapons, or the flooding of the territories by large numbers of Palestinians.

[Gay] What do you mean by adequate control measures?

[Rabin] Adequate control measures means that things will not be like today, when everything is under our control. The Oslo agreement, later signed in Washington, calls for cooperation between the two parties.

[Gay] Will we be able to completely prevent the entry of undesirable elements?

[Rabin] Even today, we cannot prevent this with complete certainty. This will continue to be the case in the future; however, I believe that we have arranged for adequate control. Second, we mapped out settlement zones in the Gaza Strip: the Qatif Bloc and the Erez, Nisanit, and Eley Sinay blocs. Along the borders of the Gaza Strip and in areas abutting the settlements, there will be zones in which Israel will oversee security but, of course, the Palestinian authority will be responsible for the civilian affairs of the Palestinians living there.

[Gay] Are you talking exclusively about the civilian aspect?

[Rabin] Yes, only about the civilian aspect although there is a possibility of conducting joint security patrols. However, the overriding [last word in English] responsibility for security is Israel's.

[Raz] Mr. Rabin, when all is said and done, will the Jewish residents of these areas enjoy more security or be less safe?

[Rabin] In the event of full cooperation with the Palestinians, with them exercising strict control over their side, then security will be guaranteed in the Jewish settlements and along the three major roads used by the Jewish residents. One should bear in mind that some of the roads are used by far more Palestinians than Israelis.

[Raz] What are the chances of achieving a high level of cooperation and security?

[Rabin] Look, if the agreement is not bolstered by cooperation from the Palestinian residents, the Palestinian authority, and the Palestinian police, then there may of course be problems. However, the agreement is founded on the assumption of cooperation. The moment there is no cooperation, the future of the entire agreement is in doubt.

[Raz] When will implementation begin in the field?

[Rabin] Look, what was signed in Cairo is a very important step toward completing the agreement. Palestinian and Israeli teams will still have to meet in Paris, to deal with all the economic issues, and in Taba to discuss the details and technique for implementing the principles signed yesterday in Cairo. In my assessment, it will take at least another month to complete all the details of the agreement and formulate a completed document. I hope that we will finish this within a month but it could take a little more time. One must remember that we do not have any sacred dates. In the attempt to create peaceful coexistence in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, we must first try to predetermine all possible points of friction, which are very numerous, and attempt to find solutions for them, at least in principle. We must formulate all this in writing before we can start implementing the agreement.

[Raz] In other words, there will be no prisoner release or operative Palestinian police until the end of the month required for drafting all the details?

[Rabin] No part of the agreement will be implemented before it is fully consolidated, comprehensive, and final.

[Gay] With your permission, I would like to return to the issue of cooperation. In the event of problems, what actions will Israel be able to take in order to guarantee its security?

[Rabin] In any agreement, one does not discuss what will happen if it is not implemented. Each signatory to an agreement, and especially so in this case, has ways to safeguard itself; however, the intention of both parties to fulfill the agreement must be sincere and stem from a desire to achieve what was agreed upon in the best possible way in order to really give a chance... [pauses] and despite the dangers, I believe there is such a chance, and the chances outweigh the risks.

[Gay] Can you confirm that all the security elements and the IDF were involved in drafting the agreement and gave their approval and support for it?

[Rabin] Each party always seeks to achieve more and has to make compromises during negotiations. For example, the map we signed on to is a map that was already presented in Taba.

[Raz] Mr. Rabin, why did you leave the issue of Jericho for an as yet unscheduled meeting between yourself and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat?

[Rabin] Look, first of all we signed on to a map which includes the Jericho area. At the time, and with my approval, Peres told 'Arafat, who had raised several demands, to drop the matter for the time being and to eventually decide the issue in a meeting with me. I accepted this idea. I have made absolutely no commitment whatsoever other than agreeing to discuss the matter.

[Raz] Is there any chance of Israel giving the Palestinians more than the 55 kilometers in the Jericho area previously reported?

[Rabin] I did not measure the exact number of kilometers, but the issue remains open without any Israeli commitment to accept the Palestinian demands.

[Gay] This agreement is valid for one year after which a joint Palestinian-Israeli committee will be able to review it. What does this mean?

[Rabin] No. The agreement is final. What we said was that after one year there will be a possibility to review [last two words in English] and reexamine the agreement. Generally, after a year one has accumulated some experience; however, I am convinced that the agreement will be judged on the basis of whether or not it has achieved its goals—and I believe it will—far before the end of the first year.

[Raz] How does the present stage of the agreement with the Palestinians influence the other negotiating tracks? For example, does it have any effect on the talks with Syria?

[Rabin] I think that the very fact of signing the DOP with the Palestinians, first in Oslo and then in Washington, was extremely important. Instead of negotiating with four partners without knowing what kind of linkage they would create between themselves, we changed the situation, negotiated with one Arab partner, the Palestinians, represented by the PLO, and reached an agreement which stands on its own. The Madrid conference imposed the same limitations as an international conference. The advantage we achieved by this comprehensive move with the Palestinians—aside from the fact that we had to resolve the feud between the Palestinians and the Israelis, the longest chapter in the Arab- Israeli conflict—is that we created a reality of separate negotiations with each Arab partner for a peace agreement which stands on its own.

[Gay] Thank you very much, Prime Minister Rabin.

Radio Highlights Cairo Agreement Details

TA0902220494 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2127 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Report by Netan'el Semrik, in the studio, and political correspondent Udi Segal in Cairo—live]

[Excerpts] [Segal] The signing ceremony in al-Ittihadiyah has just ended. As you heard, we now have a signed agreement. Here are some details. The agreement is, in fact, the same one the parties achieved in Davos. It comprises two parts: one addressing the border crossings issue, namely everything pertaining to Jericho, and another addressing the other disputed issues pertaining to Jericho and Gaza. The first, which speaks of crossings, is an eight-page document, and the second, a three-page

document, speaks of the other security problems pertaining to Gaza and Jericho, such as traffic axes in Gaza and the size of the Jericho area. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' reply to a question indicates that the size of the Jericho area was not established. What the sides did conclude were the principles governing the establishment of the Jericho size. The size of the Jericho area will be finalized only by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat. [passage omitted]

Many issues remain unresolved, including the powers of the Palestinian police and the powers of the Palestinian council. [passage omitted]

[Semrik] Udi, are we to understand that the signed document is an agreement in principle on security issues, but not yet a detailed agreement on security issues?

[Segal] This is indeed a detailed agreement. Some of the clauses are phrased in great detail. For instance, each clause on the border crossings issue and on the issue of general control are detailed. The crossings issue was the one that threatened to kill the whole deal. Today's document specifies how people will cross the borders, how Palestinians will be inspected in a way that will preserve their dignity. It stipulates that Israel will reserve the right to inspect suspects crossing the borders. All these matters were agreed in detail, but agreement on other issues, such as the size of Jericho, was achieved in principle only. [passage omitted]

Right Wing Leaders Criticize Cairo Agreement

TA1002090794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Text] The opposition has sharply criticized the Cairo agreement. Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu said that even if the loopholes in the Oslo agreement have been closed, the agreement with the Palestinians still entails great risks.

Tzomet leader Refa'el Eytan said that he does not believe that the Arabs will be able to keep the agreement. Eytan anticipates further terrorist attacks and a struggle over the roads.

Moledet chairman Rehav'am Ze'evi said that in Cairo, Peres and Sarid had signed a capitulation agreement which did not even meet Israel's security needs.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0830 GMT on 10 February reports that "the leaders of the Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip are now holding an emergency meeting to decide upon their reaction to the Cairo agreement. Knesset Member Ran Kohen, the chairman of the Meretz Knesset faction, firmly rejected what he called the right- wing's intimidation campaign against the Cairo agreement. Kohen said that the agreement was a huge historic achievement for Israel and for Zionism, because in addition to opening the road to the implementation of peace, the Palestinians had for the first time accepted security arrangements on the basis of Israel's positions and with the Israeli Army retaining overall responsibility."]

Rabin Wants Syria To 'Upgrade' Negotiators

TA0902171694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says Israel has suggested that Syria upgrade its negotiating team by sending its foreign minister, rather that what he termed the Foreign Ministry pensioner.

In reply to a question on whether secret contacts were being held with Syria, the prime minister said that some things should be probed secretly before the sides make public commitments. This was how things had been done in the negotiations with Egypt, as well as in those with the PLO.

Responding to a question on whether 'Arafat had requested that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] activity in the territories be curtailed, Yitzhaq Rabin said various requests had been submitted, but nothing has been promised. He maintained that the problem lay in people's focusing on gestures, rather than the agreement itself.

Our correspondent Qaysar Qabaha reports that the prime minister made these remarks in an interview with Nazareth's AL-SINARAH weekly.

Rabin Aides Leave 'Secretly' for Unknown Location

TA0902194594

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 9 February carries a live report from the Prime Minister's Office in Tel Aviv by political correspondent Gadi Sukenik, who states that he has "just learned that Shim'on Sheves, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Jacques Neriya, the prime minister's political adviser, have left secretly" "for some European country." Sukenik adds that the country may be Spain, where Rabin is slated to pay an official visit in two weeks. He emphasizes that "their departure has not been announced."

General: Army Training To Fight in Golan

TA0902172394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] The Golani Brigade has completed an exercise in the Golan. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the troops simulated expected combat situations in the Golan and exercised cooperation between ground forces.

After the exercise, Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the Northern Command commander, said that Syria continues its military buildup, and the IDF [Israel

Defense Forces] is aware of the danger from that direction. He stressed that the Army is training in the Golan and preparing the Golani Brigade and the armored forces and artillery systems for every conceivable task.

Dutch State Secretary Van Rooy Tours Gaza Strip

BR0902160494 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 9 Feb p 5

[Article by Eddo Rosenthal: " 'Arafat's Men Watch Over Van Rooy"]

[Text] Palestinian independence seemed to move a small step closer yesterday with the arrangements during the visit by Van Rooy, Dutch secretary of state for economic affairs, to the occupied Gaza Strip.

The Palestinians reported that the PLO office in Gaza together with the PLO in Tunis have been responsible for the program for Van Rooy's visit and, for the first time, the security arrangements for a senior foreign government representative have been entirely in Palestinian hands. There was no involvement by the Israelis or the UN refugee organization.

Former Palestinian activists who have played a major role over recent years in the intifada, the popular resistance to Israeli occupation, guaranteed the safety of the Dutch minister during her three-hour visit to the Gaza Strip. Men in plain grey suits with a small Palestinian flag on their lapels guarded the entrance to the assembly hall of the Palestinian chamber of commerce in Gaza, where Van Rooy and her delegation of Dutch businessmen met with Palestinian representatives led by Hayder 'Abd-al-Shafi, the former head of the Palestinian delegation at the peace talks in Washington.

During the intifada, Jalal Shakak, the 30-year-old Palestinian security man, was deputy commander of the youth section of 'Arafat's Fatah resistance organization at the Islamic university of Gaza. He has been imprisoned by the Israeli's on ten occasions: "I am proud that I can now serve my fatherland. In our work as security people during the visit by the Dutch secretary of state we are demonstrating that we are able to guarantee security and to govern ourselves."

In a convoy of local cars and accompanied by two UN buses, the Dutch party travelled through the densely populated refugee camps of Jabalaya and Shafi. They then continued along the seriously polluted beaches of the Gaza Strip and Van Rooy was able to take a look at the possible site of the first Palestinian port in which the Netherlands is prepared to invest 40 million guilders.

During Van Rooy's visit no Israeli soldier was to be seen and all seemed quiet. But it was learned in the evening that incidents had occurred during the day in Jabalaya and Shafi, leaving 12 injured by Israeli army bullets. Half of those wounded were children.

The Palestinians remain very divided over plans to build their own port. Yesterday afternoon at the Palestinian political headquarters in New Orient House in East Jerusalem, Van Rooy met with representatives of the occupied Jordanian West Bank. The West Bank delegation was led by the journalist and lawyer Ziad Abu Zayad, also a member of the Palestinian delegation at the political peace talks with Israel.

Zayad: "The Palestinian port is important. Not only because it would provide a valuable source of revenue, but above all because it would form one of the principal pillars of Palestinian independence. We discussed various matters with Van Rooy, matters which must be dealt with by every country in the making."

Less sure about the Palestinian port is the leading professor of economics, Hisham Awartani, of the An-Najah University in Nablus on the West Bank, who has met with Dutch businessmen. He was a member of the Palestinian delegation which conducted the (temporarily suspended) economic peace talks with the Israelis in Paris.

"I do not believe that a port will be viable if it is designed solely to serve the expected needs of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip," says Awartani. "Such a port must serve the whole region, but that would depend on the political relations with neighboring countries. That is why we must first carefully study the situation.

"Also, I believe that there are more urgent needs than having our own port. It is more urgent to do something about the miserable housing situation in the refugee camps, especially as we must expect foreign aid to decrease over the years. The international euphoria has in fact already subsided."

Secretary of State Van Rooy was accompanied by around 40 Dutch businessmen; the largest business delegation from the Netherlands ever to have visited this part of the world.

'Arafat Arrives, Briefs King on Cairo Agreement

JN1002102794 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Text] Talks between His Majesty King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat, state of Palestine president, started in Amman today. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan attended.

'Arafat arrived in Amman this morning on a short visit to Jordan during which he will brief His Majesty King Husayn on the details of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement reached in Cairo yesterday. He will also hold talks with his majesty on the latest developments in the peace process.

'Arafat was received at Queen Alia International Airport by Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the prime minister; Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, minister of state for cabinet affairs and information minister; Dr. Fawwaz Abu-al-Ghanam, minister of state and acting minister of state for foreign affairs; and Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordan's ambassador in Washington and head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks. He was also received by al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, state of Palestine ambassador in Amman and senior Embassy staff.

'Arafat is accompanied on his visit by Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, Ahmad Quray', Faysal al-Husayni, and Akram Haniyah.

Minister Pledges To Punish Bombing Suspects

JN0902150694 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Interior Minister Salamah Hammad has received a flood of cables and telephone calls from various popular sectors and citizens, commending the rapid and effective measures the Ministry of Interior and security agencies have taken to apprehend the culprits who carried out explosions in two cinemas, one in Amman and the other in al-Zarqa'. The citizens denounced these criminal acts and demanded that deterrent punishment be meted out to the culprits.

For his part, the interior minister asserted that the Ministry of Interior and the security organizations, which are careful to safeguard this country's security, will be firm and punish whoever entertains the idea of undermining and weakening the security of this steadfast Arab country. He appealed to citizens to demonstrate further watchfulness and vigilance, and to cooperate with the security organizations whenever they find any suspicious object that could destabilize security in this steadfast and unyielding country.

Lower House Condemns Terrorist Activities

JN0902175594 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1700 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Excerpt] The Lower House of Parliament has condemned the terrorist activities that Jordan is witnessing, and expressed their support to any measure the government takes to have a safe and secure Jordan.

In a statement issued by the House, the legislators praised the security forces' role in their efforts in guaranteeing the safety and security of the citizens. The condemnation came after the House was briefed by the Minister of Interior Mr. Salamah Hammad on the security situation in the country. The House called on all citizens to stand alert and united against any troublemakers. [passage omitted]

'Zionist Enemy' Blamed for Recent 'Hostile' Acts

JN1002104894 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Feb 94 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Our National Security"]

[Text] Because we have only this homeland, and because its tranquility and security are our only genuine wealth, we cannot allow any attempt to harm it or turn its tranquility into horror and security into fear. We will confront any hand that seeks to encroach on the homeland, its security and tranquility, and its citizens' safety.

We know we are targeted by many, particularly the Zionist enemy and its terrorist agencies. That enemy thinks the Jordanian land is fertile soil for sedition among members of the one family, its political and intellectual schools, or its various origins. Therefore, our eyes focus primarily on the enemy and its agencies, even if his tools were from within us and not from his own ranks. That is why we also speak loud to warn against leaving any door or window open to terrorism or sabotage by this enemy, or any other enemy of Jordan's stability, march, and national unity.

The House of Representatives, which denounced the recent acts of terrorism in our country, was speaking on behalf of all of our people in various positions and from various trends. This Jordan has always been a supporter of the language of dialogue, not the language of bombs; of peaceful arguments, not fighting with time bombs; and of democracy, and not darkness and suppression with bombs or bullets.

Our people were shaken by the bombing of two movie theaters in Amman and al-Zarqa' because they realize that no one benefits from these operations, not even those who carried them out. We do not know what kind of victory can be achieved by burning the seats of a movie theater and what honor can be gained by wounding innocent citizens who happened to be in the theater at the time of the explosion.

Confronting any hostile act against our security, peace, and unity is not the responsibility of our security agencies alone, but that of every member of the Jordanian family, each from his own position and according to his own abilities. Each citizen is a soldier for the homeland and each citizen must stand guard for security and tranquility and the enormous achievements scored

under them. We know this is a transient wave, but the highest degree of vigilance is required, now and all the time, to guarantee tranquility for our children, security for our elderly, and happiness and peace for our young men and women.

Report Links 'Iranian Ambitions,' Embassy Cuts

PM0902123294 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Feb 94 pp1, 4

[Reporty by Salamah Ni'mat: "Jordanian Fears of Their Activities Were Behind Reduction in Number of Iranian Diplomats"]

[Excerpts] Amman—Reliable Jordanian sources yesterday warned that Iran is still trying to export its Islamic revolution to the Arab states "by various methods" such as financing cultural foundations and research centers and intensifying contacts with figures which influence public opinion in these states.

The sources said that Jordan's official request, submitted to the Iranian Foreign Ministry, seeking a reduction in the number of diplomats in Iran's embassy in Amman from 40 to nine by the end of this current month "reflects Jordanian concern about Iranian ambitions."

They pointed out that the Jordanian Government had moved two months ago to check the activities of the Iranian diplomatic mission in Amman after an assault on Jordanian Ambassador in Tehran Yasin Istanbuli. They said that some unknown individuals broke into the ambassador's home, tied him up for hours, searched the house, and stole some of its contents. Official sources say that they suspect that those individuals who broke into the ambassador's home and assaulted him belonged to an Iranian intelligence branch or worked for one of the centers of power in Tehran.

The Jordanian sources revealed that the government requested an official "apology" from the Iranian Foreign Ministry for that assault incident but the Iranian Government only expressed "regret" about the incident. They said that Jordan also expressed displeasure at the fact that the Iranian authorities did not take sufficient security measures to protect the Jordanian diplomatic mission and discover the identity of the "unknown" individuals who stormed the ambassador's home. [passage omitted]

The Jordanian Foreign Ministry has emphasized that it has no reservations regarding the activities of the Iranian Ambassador in Amman Ahmad Dashmaltajian despite press reports claiming that he was one of the founders of Hizballah in Lebanon in cooperation with Syria.

The Jordanian reservations regarding the Iranian diplomatic mission concern, among other things, the funding of the Islamic Research Center in Amman and the attempt to have a seat for Shiite studies at the Jordanian University. An official source has stated that Iran "concentrates its efforts on Shiite cultural and academic aspects with the aim of spreading the ideologies of the Iranian revolution" but "pays no attention to economic cooperation between the two countries." He added that Jordan decided that the presence of 40 Iranian diplomats in Amman as compared with just three Jordanian diplomats in Tehran "is unjustifiable...considering the volume of cooperation between the two countries."

The source also said that "among the Iranian practices in violation of diplomatic rules and traditions was the attempt by the Amman mission to distribute books and leaflets against regimes in the Gulf, a matter which necessitated decisive intervention by the Jordanian authorities to prevent the distribution of these books and leaflets." [passage omitted]

Al-Shar' Meets Iranian, Pakistani Counterparts

JN0902192094 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] Damascus, 9 Feb (SANA)—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this evening received Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on the sidelines of the consultative meeting held by the foreign ministers of the nonaligned states in Jakarta. The meeting was attended by Syria's ambassador in Jakarta 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aqil and the Iranian ambassador in Jakarta.

Talks covered the peace process in light of the outcome of the Geneva summit, as well as bilateral relations. The two sides discussed issues on the agenda of the Nonaligned Movement's consultative meeting.

Faruq al-Shar' earlier met with Pakistani Foreign Minister Asaf Ahmad Ali in the presence of Syria's ambassador in Jakarta, 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aqil. The two sides discussed bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

Transport Minister, Iranian Envoy Discuss Projects

LD1002092694 Tehran IRNA in English 0734 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Text] Damascus, Feb. 10, IRNA—Syria is ready to enter into joint transportation and road building projects with Iran.

Syrian Transport Minister 'Abd-al-Karim Mufid made the remarks last evening in a meeting with the Iranian ambassador here Mohammad Hasan Akhtari.

The need to strengthen Tehran-Damascus cooperation in air, land, sea and railway transportation were stressed by the two officials.

In the meeting Akhtari handed the Syrian transport minister an invitation from his Iranian counterpart, Akbar Torkan, to pay a visit to Iran.

Al-Asad, Lebanese Minister Hold Bilateral Talks

JN0902175994 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received Sulayman Tony Franjiyah, Lebanon's minister of municipal and rural affairs. The meeting was attended by Dr. Bashshar al-Asad, al-Asad's son. Talks dealt with issues of common interest to the two fraternal countries.

Solidarity Urged Against Israeli 'Infiltration'

PM0902122094 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 9 Feb 94 p 3

[Report by Salwa al-Ustuwani: "Syria Urges Arab Solidarity To Close Door to Israeli Infiltration"]

[Excerpts] Damascus—Syria urged further Arab solidarity yesterday. It said that Arab rights can only be recovered in full if the Arabs reinforce their solidarity and coordination to close all doors to the infiltration attempts Israel is trying to make through numerous channels. [passage omitted]

A Syrian official told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that "what the current stage requires most is coordination and a unified Arab stance. Because Israel is not interested in peace and is proposing ideas that have nothing to do with peace. It is also embarking on actions aimed at hitting the peace process, namely its attacks on the peaceful people in southern Lebanon. The most recent of these attacks took place the day before yesterday. It proves that what Israel is interested in is implementing its plan to torpedo Arab solidarity, which is the cornerstone of the Arab position's strength."

The official added that the Arabs must shoulder their historic responsibility now, by not giving Israel the chance to make its plan a success and control the region and its wealth. He said that the Arab states are urgently pressed to move forward with one view to achieve peace, which is in the interests of Arab states and the region.

The official pointed out that Syria needs a clear and strong Arab position, because it cannot backtrack on its basic constants or accept compromises. And that Syria will continue to work with everyone to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement that guarantees the Arabs' rights. It declared its position clearly, namely that there can be no solution, peace, security, and stability while the land is still occupied. The Syrian official said that Washington continues to stress through the contacts conducted between it and Damascus the desire to establish peace in the Middle East—a peace that ends tension and guarantees an atmosphere of stability that eliminates the dangers threatening U.S. interests. This is why Israel is resorting to evasions, because it is aware of this reality. It is not working for the sake of ending tension and establishing peace. In fact it is seeking to kindle new conflicts in order to weaken the Arab position and the possibility of improving relations between the United States and the Arab states. [passage omitted]

Press Rejects Blame for Lebanese 'Resistance'

JN0902092494 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Press review]

[Text] Commenting on the results of the Geneva summit between President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President Bill Clinton, AL-THAWRAH says: The news conference held following the summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton demonstrated genuine agreement on a peace that rests on Security Council resolutions and the land-for-peace principle. There was also agreement that true peace is that which removes all the factors of conflict, primarily Israeli occupation and guaranteeing Arab rights.

AL-THAWRAH notes the worldwide support for the results of the Geneva summit and the world's appreciation for Syria's position, which opened the doors for peace and completely paved the way for a just and comprehensive peace.

The paper says: Israel is now facing a real test. It has to prove practically that it is part of the peace camp by responding to the Geneva call for establishing the peace of the brave.

AL-THAWRAH notes the strange claims of Yitzhaq Rabin, head of the Israeli Government, that he does not know Syria's true position on peace. Only a few days ago, Rabin acknowledged that peace with Syria is very important.

The paper says: Rabin's acknowledgement of the importance of making peace with Syria must be accompanied by action to achieve this just and comprehensive peace. Rabin should be courageous enough to declare accepting the principle of full and comprehensive withdrawal, which is a condition for full peace. Is this not what President al-Asad meant when he called for the peace of the brave? Is this not more useful than fabrications against Syria and attempts to hold it responsible for the killing of Israeli soldiers at the hands of Lebanese national resistance and on occupied Lebanese territory?

Under the headline "Occupation Is the Reason," TISHRIN says: Israel is lying to itself when it blames others for the continuation of resistance and ignores that it alone, by its occupation of the south, is directly responsible for the developments and operations in southern Lebanon.

Resistance is a natural outcome of occupation. National duty urges the Lebanese people to join the resistance to restore their occupied territory and uproot the occupation, because the occupation is the reason for all the tragedies and catastrophes that Lebanon and its people have suffered. Besides, resistance against the occupation is guaranteed by international law and all charters. Therefore, neither Israel nor anybody else can call for stopping the resistance as long as occupation is continuing.

If Israel wants to see a calm situation in the south and not to escalate matters, then it should eliminate the reasons for this resistance, specifically, the occupation and the policy of suppression, terrorism, and expansion.

TISHRIN adds: Israel has to date refused to abide by the will of international legitimacy. Therefore, Syria can, under no circumstances, accept to act as a policeman for this occupation. Israel should not pursue its claims and allegations by blaming Syria for the resistance operations.

TISHRIN concludes: It is necessary now to clarify matters, since Israel alone, by virtue of its occupation, is responsible for the developments and tension in the south. Israel's aggressive, expansionist policy could trigger further serious results and have a negative impact on the situation in the region, starting with the south.

Under the headline "National Resistance Is Continuing Until Its Cause Is Removed," AL-BA'TH says: The military reinforcements dispatched by Israel to southern Lebanon were accompanied by aggressive threats that remind us of Israel's campaign against defenseless villages late last July, which claimed dozens of martyrs.

Amid this escalation, Rabin and others did not forget to launch a disinformation campaign against Syria in a bid to undermine its clear positions on the peace process and blame it for the explosive resistance in southern Lebanon.

The paper adds: The launching of the resistance was in no need of permission from Syria or others. The resistance was the outcome of a direct reason which lies in the occupation of territory. The Lebanese people, who belong to a nation that has never surrendered to occupiers throughout its history, rose to resist the usurper to liberate their sacred soil from the filth of the occupation. Since the cause has not been removed, the resistance will continue.

AL-BA'TH says Israel's twisted logic by involving Syria in the business of the valiant national resistance to the brute occupier is within the Rabin government's constant attempts to circumvent the peace process and avoid implementing Resolution 425 stipulating immediate withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

AL-BA'TH concludes: If Rabin thinks that his threats and military operations against southern Lebanon would enable him to somehow avoid fulfilling the obligations of peace, then he is entertaining illusions that would not stall peace efforts that aim at achieving security and stability in the region. If he fears the resistance operations, all he has to do is submit to Resolution 425 as soon as possible.

Queen Nur Offers Condolences on Basil al-Asad's Death

JN0902184694 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Feb 94

[Text] The first lady today received Her Majesty Queen Nur al-Husayn of Jordan; their Royal Highnesses Princess Basmah and Princess Haya; Ghayda' Talal, Prince Talal Bin-Muhammd's wife; Jami al-Majali; Jordanian Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali's wife; and Nawzat Shakir, wife of Royal Court Chief al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir. She accepted their condolences on the homeland's loss of Staff Major Engineer Paratrooper Basil al-Asad.

The meeting was attended by the wives of the vice president, the prime minister, and the foreign minister, who also received and bade farewell to Her Majesty Queen Nur al-Husayn at the airport.

Iran

President, Envoys Meet, Note Revolution's Anniversary

LD1002122894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Text] Foreign ambassadors and representatives of foreign diplomatic missions and international organizations in Iran today were received by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Our reporter sent us this report:

[Unidentified reporter] During the meeting, the president said that the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on strengthening friendship and cooperation and the establishment of friendly relations with all countries, with the exception of the regime occupying Jerusalem and America. He said: We are strongly against regional crises and wars, and we are prepared to cooperate with international organizations and peace-loving nations of the world in order to eliminate centers of crisis.

Condemning America's hostile policy toward Iran, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: America has never been able to comprehend the realities of the Islamic revolution of Iran and is still living in the past when she regarded herself the master of this country. Therefore, the Iranian people will confront America's hostile policies with firmness and strength and will never compromise with that kind of thinking.

He described the regime occupying Jerusalem as an illegitimate and imposed regime and added: Israel is not seeking a peace that guarantees the legitimate rights of the oppressed Palestinian people. One cannot support the so-called peace talks as long as the destiny of millions of Palestinian refugees is not clarified.

The president described the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran in 1979 as being due to the justice seeking and antityrannical attitude of the Iranian people. He said: If we are witnessing the deterioration of values and principles and of human and international norms in many parts of the world today, this is due to deviations from the pure and peace-loving nature of the nations of the world.

Enumerating examples of corruption and injustice during the era of Iran's former lackey regime, its collusion with unjust international policies, and its dependent foreign policy, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: All members of Iranian society—with unprecedented unity and through reliance upon the call of their spiritual nature [fetrat] and by following the wise leadership of their religious leader—rose up against tyranny and injustice. They have paid a very heavy price thus far in order to achieve victory and to safeguard their gains. They are also prepared to continue paying the price of their independence and freedom in the future.

Referring to the progress made by the Islamic Republic of Iran during the era of reconstruction, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: A serious effort is continuing in Iran to reconstruct and repair all of the losses inflicted and the backwardness. The most important engineering projects and basic measures—including roads, power generators, ports, transportation, railways, the discovery and transfer of oil and gas, and agriculture—are being implemented with great speed by the hands of domestic experts and by using domestic equipment and material. Great success has already been achieved in these fields.

Referring to regional and international crises, especially the bitter and painful events in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the president criticized the positions of international organizations. He said: Despite the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to send 10,000 peacekeeping forces to Bosnia-Herzegovina, this offer was rejected with the excuse of maintaining impartiality. At the moment, the Serbs are free to commit any crime, and the world stops at only condemning these crimes.

He stressed: The required seriousness toward defending oppressed peoples does not exist in the centers of power in the world. One should expect all the governments and nations to hold hands and to prevent so much tyranny and injustice.

Addressing the foreign ambassadors, diplomatic representatives, and delegations from international organizations based in Iran, Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed: I ask you—as representatives who live in the Islamic Republic of Iran and witness our people's political and cultural maturity, as well as our country's development and progress—to fulfill what we expect from you. I ask you to convey the realities to the people of your respective countries, thereby making the world public aware of these realities. In this way, the foundations for establishing international and regional peace and stability will be laid down.

The president then referred to the loyalty of the people of Iran to the Islamic revolution and to the continued presence of the nation in different arenas. He said: You, as foreign diplomats based in Tehran, will witness the extensive presence of the various strata of people in the rallies tomorrow, 11 February. You will witness that even after the passage of 15 years, and despite enduring difficulties and hardship brought about by the imposed war and the process of reconstruction, our people are not prepared to allow the realities of their lives to be brought under the influence of negative and disheartening rumors and insinuations. He added: This shows the people's awareness and maturity on the one hand, and the failure of the imperialist media in attaining their inauspicious objectives, on the other hand.

According to a Central News Unit report, before remarks by the president, the ambassador of the Arab Republic of Libya [as heard] in Tehran spoke on behalf of the ambassadors as their doyen. During the course of his

remarks, he congratulated the eminent leader, the president, and the revolutionary and liberated nation of Iran on the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution. He said: We pay our respects to the lofty status of the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the revered martyrs who sacrificed their lives for Iran's independence and freedom. We convey our respect to the blessed souls of these dear ones and hope that the Islamic Republic system and the heroic nation of Iran may always be able to achieve progress and success in reconstruction and development. The Libyan ambassador then condemned the plot to assassinate the president of our country and wished him health and success.

On the basis of this report, at the end of this audience, the ambassadors, diplomats, and the Iran-based representatives of foreign countries and international organizations held separate meetings with the president. During the course of their brief exchanges, they expressed their congratulations on the anniversary of victory of the Islamic revolution.

Daily's Special Edition Views 'Ceaseless' U.S. Plots

LD1002110694 Tehran IRNA in English 0924 GMT 10 Feb 94

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 10, IRNA—Fifteen years in the life of a nation, said KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL, is like 15 seconds "yet in this period we managed to come a long way and have little to fear."

The English daily which brought out a special 24-page issue on the eve of Bahman 22 (Feb. 11), the anniversary of the triumph of the Islamic revolution, was referring to the ceaseless plots of America and its close confidante Britain against the Islamic Republic which ended their illegitimate interests around the globe.

It said that "save the direct bombing of Iranian cities by U.S. fighter planes (the U.S. did shoot down one of our passenger planes in 1988 killing 300 civilians on board) the Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton White House did everything to first bring the Islamic state to its ruin..."

The daily went on to recall plots engineered by the "great Satan" against Iran over the last decade and a half ranging from "Saddam Husayn's full-fledged military invasion of Iran to sponsoring resolutions against 'Tehran's human rights violations' at world forums."

It also took note of the depressing oil prices, difficulty in procuring technology for peaceful purposes and other plots which "temporarily disturb our lofty mission... We do not need to run away from the truth. Yes our country has some problems, which country doesn't?"

However, said KAYHAN, these problems have proved to be "blessings in disguise" and contrary to what the west likes to publicize, "Islamic Iran had no identity crisis."

The daily continued: "As regarding our proclamations of peaceful coexistence, the international community once clearly, though reluctantly, had endorsed this position (the U.N. admitted that Iraq started the war against Iran).

"Ours is basically a Muslim society that has unfathomable belief in justice of the kind practiced by our Imam Ali (A.S.)...

"We have already accepted that the 21st century will be the century of Islam. With this in vision, we are minding our own business and expect the U.S. to do likewise," the editorial concluded.

Paper Examines Turkey's 'Dangerous Game'

NC0902154394 Tehran SALAM in Persian 30 Jan 94 p 16

[Unattributed commentary: "Turkey—Dangerous Adventurism"]

[Excerpts] Following the killing and wounding of our innocent compatriots when Turkish fighter planes dropped rockets on villages on the Iranian border, some observations may be made about bilateral relations and Turkey's regional situation: [passage omitted]

The simultaneous presence of the head of the Zionist regime in Ankara and the savage attack by the Turkish planes on northern Iraq and our border regions indicate a dangerous game initiated by the Turks, especially as the reports and news available state that Zionist intelligence and military officials are increasingly present in or visiting northern Iraq and sending out the necessary information to Turkish militarists. [passage omitted]

Turkey's overt declaration that Ankara and Tel Aviv are cooperating on combating hizbollah indicates that gradual moves by the Muslim combatants are taking shape in Turkey and in all Muslim countries. [passage omitted]

Iran has displayed great restraint over Turkey's irresponsible and provocative actions, which include its cooperation with the various counter-revolutionary Iranian groups. This restraint and tolerance has limits and Ciller's government should ponder the dangerous consequences of these adventurist actions. It is the Iranian people and Government's rightful expectation that these aggressive actions are halted and that the Turkish Government tenders an apology and a guarantee that such incidents will not recur.

Russian Official Views Prospects for Relations

NC0902164294 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 31 Jan 94 p 2

[Report by an IRNA correspondent from Moscow]

[Text] Russian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Zaveryukha stressed Iran's role and importance in the

region and the need to broaden bilateral cooperation in economic, cultural, and other fields.

During his interview with IRNA's correspondent in Moscow, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Zaveryukha elaborated: We don't even have the slightest difference with the Islamic Republic of Iran hampering mutual cooperation. Asked about the Russian Government's view of foreign policy, he said: In view of its geographic position in Europe and Asia, Russia should have equal political and economic relations with all countries based on reciprocal interests.

Zaveryukha stressed that unilateral tendencies usually have dangerous and negative consequences for countries such as Russia, so there must be multilateral cooperation with countries such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

He added: The "insane ramblings" of individuals such as Zhirinovskiy regarding neighboring countries are not at all representative of the opinions or will of the Russian Administration or people.

On the prospects for cooperation between Iran and Russia and the cordial relations between Iran and the former Soviet Union, the Russian deputy prime minister added: In the Persian Gulf region, Iran is bestowed with all kinds of capabilities, so we should establish extensive cooperation in the cultural and economic fields.

On the upcoming conference of the Caspian Sea littoral countries, he stated: Iran's participation in this conference along with the CIS member countries is necessary and imperative.

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